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Bienvenido a Chile: A Guide for the International Business of the Americas Cohort

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Bienvenido a Chile

A Guide to the International Business of the Americas Cohort

Jake Sims and Julia Whitehead

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When trying to determine the drinkability of water during your travels, it is always important to consult other foreigners who have traveled to the same location. Often times locals may be accustomed to the different chemical makeup of the water and will not be aware of the adverse effects it may have for foreigners. When in doubt, buy bottled water. It will be more expensive, but paying a little extra for water is well worth not getting sick. A number of people in the cohort suffered a severe stomach bug after traveling to Mendoza, Argentina. It was not a pleasant several weeks. Always better to be safe than sorry.	67
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About the Authors



Jake Sims

Jake is an International Business, Economics, Global Supply Chain & Operations Management triple major with a minor in Spanish. Originally from Louisville, KY, he was drawn to the University of South Carolina by the Moore School's #1 IB Program and Strom's giant, resort-sized pool. His hobbies include playing guitar, obsessively checking LinkedIn, and pretending to know more about wine than he actually does. His greatest accomplishments in Chile included learning to drive a stick-shift car on Easter Island and successfully preparing scrambled eggs. He was named "Mr. Love 2015" at the FEN International Student Banquet--which he holds to be his proudest lifetime achievement.

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Julia Whitehead

Julia is an International Business, Marketing double major, History and Spanish double minor and self-proclaimed "cool nerd." Hailing from Richmond, VA, she was drawn to South Carolina by the dinner at Ruth's Chris and by the exemplary International Business and Honors College programs. She has spent most her time in Chile on the rocks, lost in the wilderness, only re-emerging each week to climb more objects at FEN. It is even rumored that she once stopped a soccer game when she tried to climb

on top of the goal posts. Going by *Rubia* or *Cabezablanca* she has gained renown for her ability to bake chocolate covered peanut butter balls and cheesecake, and everyone in FEN has unsurprisingly gained weight since her arrival.

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Expatriation: A personal account

The phenomenon of expatriation is one that has undergone constant definitional evolution as the ever-changing academic and professional spheres have continued to exert their influence of the human condition. With the dawn of globalization and emergence of the multi-national corporation, unprecedented numbers of business professionals found themselves conducting work away from their home countries. The 1920s through the 1950s saw the rise of our modern day concept of “study abroad” as more and more of the world’s universities began offering and recognizing international credit. And as university programs continued to develop throughout the later part of the century—studying abroad transitioned from an activity reserved for the wealthiest of college students, to an experience that was widely available to student populations across the United States (McKenna & Richardson, 2002, p.1). However, while there has been extensive research conducted around the topic of expatriation for business purposes, the offering of academic works analyzing the phenomenon from a student perspective is relatively limited:

Globalization has led to increasing international mobility amongst business and education professionals. Whilst expatriate management literature focuses on expatriate assignment of corporate executives, expatriate academics remain an under researched group. Higher education literature has focused on internationalization of education systems, notably the growth in international strategic alliances between universities, and mobility amongst students (McKenna & Richardson, 2002, p.2).

More recently, we have seen universities begin to place an increased emphasis on “cultural immersion”; recognizing the frivolity that permeates the study abroad culture in the United States¹, program directors are seeking to develop the profundity of experience offered to their students by engineering programs that encourage cultural immersion through relationships, work-study, and language. Dr. Tara Madden—who holds a Ph.D. in international education and has spent years studying the factors that contribute to a meaningful experience abroad—has observed the following regarding an ideal international experience:

¹ Over the past decade, the growth of study abroad in universities has created a generational dichotomy of perspective: in which the generation x and their antecedents view the study abroad experience as one of immense educational and professional value while generation y and millenials have come to view the endeavor as not only commonplace—but trivial.

A successful trip overseas should include pre-travel assessments, continuous evaluation while abroad, and post-travel assessment in addition to supplemental cross-cultural sensitivity and customs training. As digital citizens, communication is made easy and bimonthly updates should be protocol for every student and employee. Dependable liaisons in both parent-country and host-country should be provided as well. Commitments to host-country relationships should be made far before the student or employee leaves the US and should be sustained while living in the host-country. Practicing the language and using local resources while participating in internships or volunteer positions can help speed through transition stages. Also, membership in community clubs, churches, and organizations should be considered to fast-track assimilation, strengthen relationships, maximize opportunities, and take advantage of time spent overseas. A clear understanding of host-country cultural dimensions should prepare the traveler for the new region's values and customs.

This reinvigorated emphasis on phenomena like "host-country relationships," "using local resources," and "cultural dimensions" has brought about the popularity of the cohort study abroad program. A cohort study abroad program is a program that brings together student participants from academic institutions in different countries to study as a unit in one country, before traveling together and pursuing their studies together in the second country. Cohorts enable students to cultivate a more meaningful understanding of their host-country by beginning the process long before the student departs from their home country. Having participated in two distinct study abroad programs during my time at the University of South Carolina, I can speak to the effectiveness of the cohort approach and how it serves as a catalyst for a decidedly more successful expatriate experience.

Before progressing further, it is important to establish the definition of a "successful expatriate experience." Upon returning home from a study abroad experience, students are frequently asked, "Did you have a blast? Was it so much fun?" While enjoying one's time abroad is an important measure of emotional health and personal well being, it is by no means an adequate indicator of the success of a study abroad experience. Instead, Dr. Madden's anteceding analysis lends itself to the idea that "cultural immersion" has become the standard by which the success of an international experience should be measured. This is a notion that I wholeheartedly agree with and feel the cohort approach to study abroad achieves much more effectively than a standard study abroad venture.

My own study abroad experiences echo these sentiments. Contrasting the time I spent in Spain with the time I spent in Chile makes evident to me the value of the cohort experience. Reflecting on my time spent in both of those countries has helped me to understand why I identify more with Chile than with Spain—and why my experience in Chile was a more successful one. The importance of the “cultural immersion” metric for measuring the success of a study abroad experience is best illustrated through the way its absence shaped my initial study abroad reflections. Making no considerations for the profundity of my cultural experience in the country, I would be inclined to select Spain as my more successful study abroad endeavor. In Spain I was happier and I had a lot more fun; while in Chile I often found myself frustrated, sick, and isolated.

But what happens when we introduce the cultural immersion metric into my consideration? My entire perspective of my experience changes. While Spain provided exciting and fun experiences, Chile provided personal, academic, and professional growth and development. In Spain I acted mostly as a tourist, while in Chile I conducted myself as a Chilean. How could two similar travel experiences to two Spanish-speaking countries affect me in such profoundly different ways? I believe that the cohort study abroad approach provides the answers to these questions.

Every student will have his or her own, idiosyncratic experience abroad. A 2002 longitudinal study surveyed 294 international and domestic student sojourners to examine and compare their adjustment and distress or strain responses. The findings revealed that “although sojourners experienced increasing adjustment over time, the pattern of strain was curvilinear, peaking three months after the start of the semester...self-efficacy, social support and cultural novelty predicted adjustment and strain at different times during the transition period” (Hechanova-Alampay, 2002, p.4). The varying degrees of self-efficacy, social support, and cultural novelty from student to student and program to program will have an impact on the student’s perception of their experience abroad. With that being said, the cohort study abroad approach controls for all these factors—developing self-efficacy, social support, and cultural familiarity before the student has ever left their home country.

Though they vary in their specific structures, cohort study abroad programs bring together students from completely different cultural backgrounds and provide a foundational platform through which those students can interact and assimilate to one another’s cultures. As an inaugural member of the University of South Carolina’s

first International Business of the Americas cohort partnership with the Universidad de Chile, I had the opportunity to learn first hand the mutual understanding and shared experiences fostered by cohort programs.

When the Chilean students arrived to USC in the spring of 2014, for many of them it was their first time in the United States. Many were uncomfortable with the English language, while others were struggling to navigate the expansive campus and find their classrooms. The IBA Cohort connected the Chilean students with the USC-side of the cohort prior to their arrival—which gave them resources to reach out to when they were in need. The Chilean students did not find themselves at a disadvantage upon arriving to the States; in fact, because of the cohort, they actually held a tremendous advantage over their international peers. The cohort created a kind of bubble, a safe zone, where Chileans felt welcomed and comfortable with asking questions and learning more about the country they would be living in for the next year.

Of course, the most impactful characteristic of a cohort is not the dissemination of information, but the *exchange* of information. Cohort programs create a two-way street. So while the Chileans were able to use us as a resource throughout their time in the States, we were also able to use them to begin acclimating ourselves to the Chilean culture and lifestyle. In addition to practicing the language and learning first-hand about Chilean culture, the cohort permitted us to form strong relationships with one another. Many of these relationships would translate to our participation in volunteer organizations, extra-curricular activities, and professional work experience when we arrived in Chile—all integral parts of our cultural immersion that we would have struggled to develop independent of our Chilean cohort partners.

From the U.S. perspective, expatriation was made easier by the cohort environment because we were presented with the opportunity to gauge our expectations with native citizens of our host-country. We were able to mitigate much of the “culture shock” that students often experience when they travel abroad because—thanks to pre-departure insights from our Chilean friends—most things about Chilean culture did not come as a “shock.” Rather than being shocked by the inefficiency of Chilean supermarkets, we were able to confirm the expectations that had already been framed for us by our Chilean counterparts. Much of the negative variables associated with expatriation are factors of culture shock—a cohort program helps to mitigate that shock factor and make expatriation a much more predictable, enjoyable, and profound experience.

When I contrast this experience with Spain, I find that—while I enjoyed my time in the country—the depth of my cultural immersion was limited at best. I entered the country with a reasonable knowledge of the spoken language—but no informed expectations about the culture or customs. Consequently, I more often conducted myself as a third-party observer (the experience felt more like a vacation than a cultural immersion). In many ways this is the perfect analogy: if one is not intentional about immersing his or herself in their host country's environment, it is tantamount to vacationing in the Dominican Republic and never leaving the resort. You would have traveled to the Dominican Republic, sure; but you would have no knowledge of the country or culture outside of the climate and seafood. Being part of a cohort program before traveling to Chile made me intentional in my expatriate endeavors. I entered the country with an existing understanding of what was happening around me and was able to process information and stimuli in a more profound way because of the socio-cultural frameworks and expectations my Chilean cohort members had helped me to build.

I believe the cohort approach also has applications beyond the academic sphere. Many U.S. citizens view expatriation as an insurance policy for fleeing the United States in times of trouble. While in many countries, seeking temporary asylum abroad poses minimal complications—in the United States, living abroad while retaining your citizenship can be immensely costly. “The United States is one of two countries, and is the only major country, that imposes significant income, capital gains, gift, and estate taxes on its non-resident citizens” (Nestmann, 2012, p.3). In nearly every other country, “individuals end their liability to pay income tax after a sustained period of non-residence,” normally one year or more. But in order to “legally and permanently end U.S. tax liability on their worldwide income,” United States citizens must also “give up their U.S. citizenship and passport” (p.4). Given the extra-circumstantial constraints posed on U.S. Citizens by the country's government, knowledge of how to execute a successful expatriation endeavor should be more widespread than it is today.

While individuals outside of the university environment are unlikely to have access to the administrative organization necessary to structure their own cohort program, incorporating the elements inherent in the cohort approach can be incredibly helpful in preparing someone for an expatriate experience. These elements include: learning about the host-country's values and customs, exploring the host country's language, becoming involved in an organization in the host country (service, political, etc.), and developing relationships with one's host country's citizens. The Internet has tremendously enabled the individual to access

information about other countries, and has even enabled people to communicate and establish relationships on the other side of the world. Following the cohort model used in the academic sphere can help prepare individuals from any background for a successful and culturally immersive expatriate experience.

The idea behind the Chile & IBA Program Guide was to capture as much of our cohort experience as possible and make it available to future cohort members, students looking to study abroad in Chile, and the general public. The development of host-country relationships and emphasis on cultural immersion facilitated by the cohort model are the keys to a successful experience abroad on an academic, professional, and personal level. The Chile & IBA Program Guide comes from a place of personal experience, but also reaches broader concepts and cultural phenomena that affect one's experiences abroad. Co-authoring this guide was an ambitious undertaking, but it was a process that promoted tremendous introspection and personal reflection on my own idiosyncratic experience in Chile. It is my hope that this guide is utilized not only by future cohorts in the International Business of the Americas program, nor by just college students studying abroad, but by all individuals seeking a profound expatriate experience. My two-year cohort experience has instilled in me a level of cultural awareness and understanding that is not possible to achieve in any other way—Julia Whitehead and I have taken that knowledge and passed on as much of it as possible in this guide.

There are lots of guidebooks to South America and to Chile on the market. These books will tell you the best sites to see, the best places to eat, and the best things to do. Our guide does all of these things as well. The difference is that our Chile & IBA Program Guide comes from both extensive independent research, as well as deep, personal experience. It is this personal touch that I hope will shape the Guide into something more useful than its predecessors. This is the first time a comprehensive guidebook to Chile has been written from the perspective of two people who were cohort participants—and, that cohort component alone, given the information unearthed in this paper, makes this this guide infinitely more valuable than other travel resource currently available to aspiring expatriates..

I do not expect the study abroad culture in American universities to change in the next decade. Students will continue to travel to abroad and spend their time as tourists—only skimming the surface of the ocean of culture in their host-country. But it is my sincerest hope that students are seeking a more profound and in-depth study abroad experience will begin to look towards the cohort approach as the most effective way of achieving this. The cohort approach optimizes everything about the

expatriation process—and nothing else better equips an individual to be successful abroad.

Jake Sims

Prior to Arriving

Packing Essentials

Outlet Converters

The standard voltage of a power outlet in Chile is 220-240 Volts--compared to 110-120 Volts in the U.S. The primary socket type is the Europlug (sorry about the name South America).



2

Most of the electronic appliances you bring with you (laptops, cellphones, tablets) will have built in transformers to handle the difference in voltage, so a simple adapter will be enough to make them safely usable in Chile. Any appliance that contains a motor or a heating unit (hair dryers, irons, steamers) will require a converter that will adjust the voltage and keep your appliances from getting fried. Purchasing a few converters/adapters prior to your arrival in Chile would be wise, but they are very easily obtained once in Santiago.

² Chile Converter Type. (2011). Retrieved August 12, 2015, from <http://wanderingtrader.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Outlet-Plug-in-Chile.png>

Walking Shoes

Santiago is a very pedestrian-friendly city. A combination of walking and public transportation can get you to virtually every corner of the city. While heels, wedges, and boots are perfect for a night-out, you will also want to bring some comfortable footwear for navigating the city. Comfortable tennis-shoes are the easiest option. The Chileans prefer more urban-style shoes (rather than sporty footwear). Vans, Nikes, and New Balances are all very common. Chacos are also great--especially for hiking the city's many cerros and more mountainous regions.

Looking for Housing

When to Look for Housing

Depending on how type-A you or your potential roommate(s) are, you might want to start looking for housing the Fall before you head abroad to Chile. We would personally counsel against it, as you really need to be able to check out the apartment in person before you commit to paying for it for the entire year. Our suggested method of living is to book an Airbnb for the first couple of weeks after you arrive and in that period take the time to contact realtors and apartments about housing. This is also a really great time to seek advice from former IBA kids as well as from your cohort friends. You can always attempt to do it beforehand but you risk being overcharged as a Gringo, living in a bad area or otherwise being misled.

Where to Live

Unless you have a particular desire to sardine yourself and sweat on the way to school each morning and evening during rush hour, my suggestion is to live pretty close to FEN. However, choosing your location can go really well or really horribly, as FEN is the exact point where sketchy neighborhoods become nice, and it is really easy to choose the wrong neighborhood.

Near Public Transit

Your life will become immeasurably easier if you live within a five minute walk of the metro, or at least within a block of a well-traveled bus stop. The more bus numbers, the better.

Close to FEN (Neighborhoods)

Barrio Lastarria

This neighborhood is filled with restaurants and, subsequently, people at all times of night. It is a really safe, well traveled area that is a mere five to ten minute walk to FEN. It's only downside is that it can be loud at night. Nearest metro line: Universidad Católica

Providencia (Salvador, Manuel Montt, Pedro de Valdivia)

The *Comuna* of Providencia is one of the best for Internationals to live in the city. The closest part of Providencia to FEN is the area near Calle Salvador and around Barrio Italia, which is a bustling and old (in terms of architecture) part of town. If

you live here, you will likely be a bit further away from restaurants but would have not much more than a 15 minute commute to FEN in the morning. Nearest Metro Lines to the closest area are: Santa Isabel, Parque Bustamente, and Salvador³

Additionally, you can consider getting an apartment near Manuel Montt or Pedro de Valdivia. However, if you do this just know that the walking commute will likely be about 30 minutes or more. Ideally, you would live along Calle Providencia or alongside Francisco Bilbao, in an area regularly serviced by bus lines or metro stations. Living in a well-lit, busy area is also a great idea for walking at night, and makes getting a cab easy.

Safe, Distant Barrios

Living far away in areas like Las Condes, Vitacura, la Reina, Lo Barnechea, Peñalolén is really quite safe, however there are additional costs associated with daily transportation (about \$2 USD every day for public transit as well as the time spent



on the mode of transportation). Moreover, getting back home after a night out on the town gets much more expensive and complicated.

Good Housing Websites

³[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/cf/Comunas_de_Santiago_\(nombres\).svg/2000px-Comunas_de_Santiago_\(nombres\).svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/cf/Comunas_de_Santiago_(nombres).svg/2000px-Comunas_de_Santiago_(nombres).svg.png)

www.portalinmobiliario.cl

www.airbnb.com

www.compartodepto.cl

www.contactchile.cl

www.goplaceit.cl

Is Your Landlord Ripping You Off?

The biggest concern with getting an apartment before you arrive to the city and look at the rooms and neighborhood is that your landlord will take advantage of you and rip you off. Typically, in an apartment for two people, you will *each* be paying anywhere between \$300 and \$650 a month, including electricity and utilities. That rent range's upper tail includes doormen, pools, barbecue areas and excessive security. Anything not within that range is probably not a good deal.

Who Should You Live With?

Bear in mind that you are living abroad, in a foreign, strange nation for upwards of ten months. That being said, your roommate will most likely come from the cohort itself, be with a homestay or be random. It is not as hard, nor as scary to find roommates with locals or with other internationals that are coming to FEN. Typically, the official Facebook page for international students will be up a couple of weeks before school starts and you can use it to initially find your roommate, and then use it again to find another roommate the second semester. Another option is to use websites like <http://www.okroommate.com/chile/index.aspx?lang=en> and <http://www.roommateflatfinder.com/>.

A good roommate will be there for you when you need them, and this is extremely important as the yearlong abroad experience can be very emotionally challenging. They will push you to make local connections and friends but serve as your safety net if you ever need it. If you don't have that level of a connection, consider changing into a situation that is better for you. It is **your** abroad experience and living with someone who makes your home life difficult is especially trying, as that home typically becomes your enclave of normalcy in the foreign world.

When in doubt, the cohort itself is the best place to start your roommate search. Bear in mind, however, that many Chileans still live with their families and have never had to search for and live in an apartment of their own. Additionally, because the majority of the Chileans in your cohort will live outside of the city, they may lack some of the "street smarts" of the Chileans you will meet once you arrive in Santiago. Regardless, we suggest that you check out your roommate, the neighborhood, and the apartment for yourself before committing.

Applying for your Chilean Visa

Depending on where you live you might have multiple consulates that you can use to apply for your Visa. Everyone has the option to use the Miami consulate, and all other consulates vary state to state (consult the map below for your home-state specific consulate).

Consulates of Chile by jurisdiction Consulados de Chile por jurisdicción



Requirements:

- Visa Application Form typed in all caps
- Valid Passport (at least for the term of the visa)
- One passport color photograph professionally done (2x2in.)
- FBI Background Check stating that the applicant has no records nationwide
 - However, the FBI is ridiculously behind schedule, delivering a background check about six months after you apply for it. Due to this, the embassy and consulate are accepting Statewide background checks. Some states do online background checks.
- Letter of acceptance from Facultad de Economía y Negocios
- Health certificate recently issued and signed by a Doctor stating that the applicant enjoys good health and has no communicable diseases (easily done on campus at the Student Health Center)
- Letter or certificate of financial support (scholarship, notarized letter of financial support from the parents).

When in doubt, get this done early on in the winter break. Remember that you have to pick up your visa from the consulate or embassy (or one of their affiliated cities) in person, so if you live on the west coast, Charleston isn't your best option.

What to Do in the Break Before Chile

Internship

The IBA Program offers you the unique and enriching opportunity to experience Chile for an entire year. While this will give you a cross-cultural resilience and language skills that will exceed most of your peers, it is necessary to keep in mind the importance of professional experience in finding a job after graduation. IBA students do not have the opportunity to have the “key junior summer internship” that is so important for developing a resume and finding a job.

Fortunately, IBA students have 3 free months prior to their departure (December, January, February). Finding and working an internship during this time can be essential to boosting your resume and providing you the professional experience you need to carry you through your year-long program in Chile. Because many companies will not be looking to hire interns during this time, it is important to start your search early to mid-fall of your Junior year. We recommend searching for a position in your hometown if possible--you are about to be away from your family and loved ones for 10 months and you will want to be able to spend as much time with them as possible before you depart.

Additionally, do not despair with the lack of the “typical” internship, as many of the cohort in batch one ended up with one or more internships while living in Santiago. Due to the fact that Santiago is a huge hub city for the country, some of the top multinational companies have locations there, making it easy to find a top notch internship to do in addition to your studies if you are so inclined. We'll touch on this more later on in the guide.

Exercise

Believe it or not, staying physically fit is also an important part of your preparation for your time in Chile. Working out will help to calm the nerves that will inevitably begin to build as your departure time draws closer. Additionally, Chile is a country with incredibly diverse topography. While you may not run out of breath catching the metro from one end of the city to the other, treks outside of Santiago can be physically challenging and sometimes impossible if you are not in good physical condition, not to mention how much more you will have to walk just to get around because of the sheer size of the city.

Try Not to Go Crazy (i.e. Netflix)

In the event that you are unable to find an internship (or sometimes even if you have one), you are going to find yourself with a lot of free time on your hands before you leave for Chile. The temptation to binge watch Netflix will be stronger than ever. While pulling an all-nighter to watch the latest season of House of Cards is an

acceptable one-time endeavor, you should try your best to focus your efforts on physically and mentally preparing for your time in South America. Research the country and make tentative travel plans, keep in touch with your Chilean friends from the cohort, and READ THIS GUIDE. All of these things will help you have a successful experience abroad, Netflix will not.

Psychologically Preparing for Chile

The life cycle of an IBA Student



Based on Oberg (1960) and Gallahorn & Gallahorn (1963) ⁴

Before delving into the emotional and psychological journey of studying abroad for a year, it is important to understand that no two students will have the same experience. While students may experience high and low periods together, your highs may be different from others student's highs, and other student's lows may be different than your lows. The purpose of this summary is to provide a general timeline for the many psychological stages through which you will progress so that you are best equipped to cope with each as you move through them during your time in Chile.

When you first arrive in Chile you will very quickly begin what is called the "honeymoon" phase. Everything you do and see will be new and exciting. You have left the cold winter of the U.S. and arrived in 80°F Santiago. Every Chilean you come into contact with will seem like your best friend. The beautiful pigeons of the city sing your name as you walk through its wondrous streets. There is so much to do and so much to see and you aren't sure how you're going to fit it all in.

⁴ Cultural Adjustment. (2015). Retrieved July 30, 2015, from http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/cultural_adjustment

Fast forward 2-3 months. The pigeons have replaced their singing with pooping on your belongings. You have decided Chileans don't even speak Spanish. Santiago is dirty and boring. Your roommate is getting on your nerves. And you have no idea how you are going to survive a year in this place. Welcome to Crisis #1 AKA Culture Shock. This is the time when we saw a lot of shuffling among the cohort--changing of houses, roommates, etc. You will begin to become fed up with the unnecessarily long lines in grocery stores, people shoving you on the metro, FEN professors never showing up to class on time. You are getting on Facebook and seeing all of your friends finish their Spring semester and start their impressive summer internships while you may be experiencing an entirely different culture, interning at businesses that cannot hire you after graduation and going to one too many Miércoles Po. This crisis does not normally manifest itself in a single event. But rather, it is a culmination of little things over a period of months that begins to wear on each student.

Fret not, because your first crisis will pass and you will come out of it feeling very adjusted and comfortable in Santiago. Everything will have lost some of its newness and chic, but for the first time you will actually feel like you are *living* abroad. This will likely continue through the end of your first semester. Some members of our cohort opted to visit home during the semester break while others traveled around South America. There is no wrong way to use this time--it is a good reset to gear up for your second semester.

But then your second semester actually starts. Things are weird. REALLY weird. All of your international friends from first semester that you had grown so close to are gone. They have been replaced by new internationals from mostly the same countries. But you do not want to spend time with these internationals. They don't get you. They don't get Chile. They are not *the original* internationals. Obviously, the new group of international students will have just as much to offer you as the first--it will be important to form relationships with them even though it may feel strange at first. Other than that, your second semester will be far easier than your first--you will feel comfortable, adjusted, and know your way around the school and the city. You will be able to offer advice to the new international students and maybe even feel like a Chile expert.

Then comes Crisis 2. Not everyone in our cohort experienced a strong crisis during their first semester--but the second crisis was shared universally across the cohort. This crisis begins between 7-8 months into your time in Santiago. You are winding down--some students may have even started a countdown for their return to the U.S. This time is filled with a weird mix of emotions: excitement to return home, reluctance to leave Chile, stress about what you need to do before you leave, stress about what you need to do when you get back. Many students will be experiencing the frustrating process of completing job applications from abroad. Football season will be in full-swing you you'll be missing tailgates. You will be receiving e-mails for

career fairs that you can't attend. During this crisis our cohort was split between wanting to go back to the U.S. as soon as possible and never wanting to leave Chile. The most important thing you can do during this time is be there for one another. There is a temptation to isolate yourself--but you are not alone. Everyone in the cohort will be feeling the same feelings as you, and the best thing you can do for one another is talk them out.

Your last two months may be your best. They will be bittersweet. You'll be trying to squeeze in any last minute trips and dreading saying goodbye to all the friends you've made over the past couple years--cohort goodbyes will be especially difficult. You'll start to cherish the little things about your daily activities in Chile: the metro rides, the kiltros roaming the streets, the vendors selling sushi on the sidewalk that you would never buy from in a million years. Enjoy your last days as much as you can, you may not be back for a long time. And take comfort in knowing you still have a semester left at USC--where everything began.

It is important to take the general study abroad advice you will receive prior to your departure with a grain of salt. Most students study abroad for a single semester or less, and being abroad for a year brings with it a whole different kind of experience and challenge. Whereas most students should be prepared to endure a single cycle of the "life cycle" graphic displayed at the beginning of this section, IBA students should anticipate moving through this cycle two or three times during their stay in Chile.

Cohort Interactions Prior to Arrival

Fun in South Carolina

Befriending the Chileans in your cohort is *the most important thing you can do to prepare for Chile*. These students will be your number one resource prior to your arrival in South America and during your first months in the country. And remember, you are their first resource when they arrive in the U.S. Be sure to reach out to your Chilean counterparts as soon as they arrive in the Spring. Chances are most of them will have never been in the States before. IBUS 310 will be a great opportunity for you to bond in an academic environment--while cohort trips will give you the chance to get to know one another on a more personal level. It will be tempting to stay in your comfort zone and bond with your USC cohort members, with whom you have much more in common. Do your best to spend as much time with the Chileans as you can; they are going to be much less busy than you are and have a lot of free time they'll be looking to spend with their new *gringos*.



First Week/ What is Immediately Different

Arriving from the Airport, How to get to Santiago

Chilean Friend Picks You Up

This is the ideal method of airport retrieval, because not only do you get to see your friends from your cohort and potentially get to meet their parents, but you also get direct transport to wherever you decide to live. That means a great conversation and view of the mountains, as you cruise into the city. It also means that you get a bit of leeway before having to master Public transportation. Moreover, you will likely have around three to five (depending on your love of clothing) bags with you, which makes having a car reserved for just your baggage, ideal. We can't emphasize enough how important it is to befriend your cohort buddies.

Buses

There are two main options: TurBus and Centropuerto

TurBus

- Stopping Places:
 - Universidad de Santiago Metro Station

- Las Rejas Metro Station
- Pajaritos Metro Station
- Hours: 6:00-24:00, every day of the year
- Cost: one way (\$1.600 CLP), round trip (\$2.800 CLP)

Centropuerto

- Stopping Places:
 - Los Héroes (the median of Alameda at the metro Los Héroes)
 - Pajaritos Metro Station
 - Las Rejas Metro Station
 - Universidad de Santiago Metro Station
 - Estación Central Metro Station
- Hours: 05:55-23:30, every day of the year
- Cost: one way (\$1.500 CLP), round trip (\$2.900 CLP)

For More Information: <http://www.aeropuertোসantiago.cl/english/medios-de-transporte-desde-y-hacia-scl/buses-y-minibuses.html>

Taxis

There are a ton of these at the airport, however, expect your fare to be around \$20.000 CLP or more into Santiago. There are also some taxis who are trying to scam you, if you have a bad gut feeling, don't take the ride. When in doubt, talk to someone who works at the airport and they will send you in the right direction. For more information on taxis, go to the public transportation section. Do not pay more than \$30.000 to get into the city.

Drivers

Uber

Uber just may be your saving grace if you can get a cell phone with data to work on the Chilean networks. It will definitely cost a little bit more than the average taxi as far as initial rates go, but it's important to remember that you are obviously not a native Chilean spanish speaker and the normal taxi drivers will take advantage of you once they realize you probably don't know your way around town. Seriously, 8 out of 10 times they will run the meter much faster than they should. Uber is a safe alternative. It is reliable and all the cars here in Chile for the standard Uber service are identical (Chevrolet Orlando, more likely than not). Uber is recommended for trips around the city of Santiago as it does not operate elsewhere. Use it, for it will actually save you from getting ripped off by the taxis. Also, many times the drivers offer you water, mints, candies, etc. It is an all around better service than what you expect from even Uber in the states, and just like in the US, you do not tip.

ENOTOUR

ENOTOUR is a transfer service/wine touring company. The company is very professional, punctual and the drivers are very kind, although they rarely speak

English. This service is recommended more for if your parents visit. The service is not cheap, but it is probably comparable to the U.S. and your relatives will prefer the security that comes with this service. They offer direct payment to the drivers via cash (CLP) or card (all major card companies accepted). The driver will also expect a tip. The company took my family and I to Valparaíso and back, the Colchagua Valley for a predetermined wine tour that you set up via email with the company, and Cajon del Maipo--a little mountain oasis that is located right outside of the city. The website is easily navigable and you can write to them in English, they will have no problem understanding English-written requests.

Transvip

This is a shared taxi service, that drops you off at your apartment directly from the airport or picks you up from your apartment to take you to the airport, at a cost of about \$7.000 CLP. The only downside is the increased travel time, however, it is ideal if you have a large amount of luggage that travels with you or if you are traveling outside the times of readily available public transit. You can arrange your transportation online at <http://www.transvip.cl/> or you can arrange it at the airport via the Transvip booth.

PDI (Visa Registration)/ Applying for a Cédula

Policía Internacional

Address: Eleuterio Ramirez 852, Santiago

Hours: Monday-Friday from 08:30-14:00 hrs.

Cost of Registration: \$800 CLP

Documents Needed:

- Passport (with Student Visa)
- Entry Document Stamped by Immigration Services at the airport (white or yellow small piece of paper that was stamped and returned to you)
- Permanent Address in Chile
- Telephone Number in Chile
- Email Address
- Calculated EXACT expiration date of your visa (listed in days)

In order to register your Visa in Chile, you will have to go to this building. This is very important, as you will have to register your Visa within 30 days of entering the country. However, it is very similar to the DMV in the United States with lines everywhere. Upon arriving, head to the first line where you will show your documents, pay your \$800 CLP and then be given a number. This begins the first, long process of sitting and waiting for your number to be called. Upon your number being called, you will go to the small booth and answer all of his or her questions, in Spanish, about the required information to register your visa (listed above). At the end he or she will take your picture and print out a piece of paper with both your photo and all of the information. Do not leave the booth before you have read over and verified that everything is correct. Double check that he or she spelled your

name correctly, if you do not, your adventure to PDI and Registro Civil will expand by about four hours or more.

Centro Especializado para la Atención a Extranjeros

Address: Huérfanos 1570, Santiago

Closest Metro: Santa Ana

Hours: Monday-Friday from 08:30-14:00

Cost: \$4,050 CLP

Documents needed:

- Your passport with the student visa
- The paper document given to you by PDI
- A photocopy of the following:
 - Your passport identity page (clear and legible)
 - Your student visa page
 - The stamped page that shows when you entered Chile
 - The document given to you by PDI

Note**: There is a place to photocopy your pages at the Centro Especializado para la Atención a Extranjeros

Upon arrival, you can either go to the main floor or down a level for the process. We suggest the main floor because it was much more “*gringo*” friendly. Here, start out by making photocopies of your documents. Once you have everything that is needed, get in the line that is located centrally, with the front of the line facing the exits and show the Chilean that you have all of your documents and your money. You will then be given a number and told to sit down, on the left side of the main floor. This part takes forever. When your number is finally called, you will go up to the booth and verify all of the documents you have given her or him, and then spell out your mother and father’s names, which is typically hilarious because names like “Whitehead” or “Sims” are not exactly common here. After you have verified everything, you will be fingerprinted extensively. We highly suggest bringing hand-sanitizer afterwards because your fingers will be manhandled in an attempt to collect fingerprints. At this part, if you have misspelled your name, they will see it here and send you back to PDI, after you have already waited hours for your Cédula application. Finally, they will print you a document that has your RUN (essentially, a common form of SSN that is not as private) as well as the date when you can pick up your Cédula.

Cédulas are really quite important because they are needed in order to request a *Pase Escolar* (which gives you a bus/metro fare of ~\$210 CLP in comparison to the typical ~\$600CLP). Your RUN that is located on your Cédula is also important every time you shop with a credit card, for you need to both sign the receipt and write your RUN. Until you receive your Cédula, you have to write your passport number, although many internationals write their favorite letter and number combination. However, be careful with this, as I once was stopped from buying groceries for about five minutes as the cashier had to consult with her manager to see if it was

alright for me to leave without one of these official documents with me, to verify my identity. Finally, you can also use your RUN to open up a *Cuenta RUT* (bank account) at BancoEstado, which can be really convenient if you register for races or pay bills in Chile. Why? Well, many websites do not take the appropriate conversion rate into account and choose instead to simply double the CLP amount and divide by a thousand, if you decide to pay with your U.S. bank account or credit cards.

In order to pick up your *Cédula*, you must check the website (listed on the document you received) and when it says it is ready you must return to *Huérfanos* during daytime hours with both your receipt and your Passport. This time, stand in the line in the center of the main floor, facing towards the booths. It is pretty painless, but can also move slowly. All you have to do is give them your receipt and show them your passport. Now, you have a *Cédula*.

For More Information:

http://international.fen.uchile.cl/incoming/visa_information.html

Chilean Cell Phone/ International Phone

The choice of cell phone and access to calling back in the U.S. becomes immeasurably more important in the second semester at FEN, when you are applying to jobs and getting call backs for interviews. Options exist such as Skype, Google Hangout and the international phones of your cohort members, but it is an important detail to keep in mind.

International Plan

One option available to you for phone service in Chile is an International Plan offered through your U.S. carrier. These plans can be added to your existing phone plan simply by talking to your service provider. The advantage of using an International Plan is that you can step off the plane in Santiago with a working phone; also these plans permit you to switch between Chilean service providers (Movistar, Claro, Entel, Nextel) to find the best coverage. Furthermore, these International Plans cover all countries--not just Chile, so if you travel outside the country you will still have a working phone. The disadvantage of these plans are that they are more costly than purchasing a Chilean sim card and using a pay-as-you-go service.

AT&T International Plans*

Package	Passport	Passport Silver	Passport Gold
Charge (One-time for 30 days or monthly recurring)	\$30	\$60	\$120
Messages sent (Text, picture & video)	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Talk (Per minute)	\$1.00	\$0.50	\$0.35
Cellular data (Includes Web surfing, social media posts, downloading music, etc.)	120MB Overage: \$0.25/MB	300MB Overage: \$0.20/MB	800MB Overage: \$0.15/MB

⁵*A “Global Plan” can be requested that mirrors the Passport plan except it does not need to be renewed each month

Verizon International Plans

International Travel Voice		International Travel Messaging			International Travel Data	
Canada, Mexico, Northern Mariana Islands and Guam	99¢/min		Text (SMS)	Multimedia (MMS)	All Countries	\$0.002/KB or \$2.05/MB
140+ Countries with Preferred Pricing	\$1.79/min	Message Sent	50¢	25¢		
Standard Pricing Countries	\$2.99/min	Message Received	5¢	25¢		

6

Sprint International Plans

Voice		Text		Data	
	Price		Price		Price
Regular	\$3.99/minute	Regular	Send: \$0.50/recipient; Recv'd: \$0.05/msg	Regular	\$0.019/KB
With Worldwide voice add-on \$4.99/mo.	\$1.99/minute				

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U.S. Phone Companies that are Willing to Help You

⁵ AT&T International Roaming and World Passport Packages - from AT&T. (2015). Retrieved July 30, 2015, from <http://www.att.com/shop/wireless/international/roaming.html>

⁶ International Services While Traveling Outside the US. (2015). Retrieved July 30, 2015, from <http://www.verizonwireless.com/landingpages/international-travel/>

⁷ Sprint International Service & Support. (2015). Retrieved July 30, 2015, from <http://support.sprint.com/support/international?ECID=vanity:international>

AT&T and Verizon are your best options and are both very willing to accommodate your travel plans. Of the two, AT&T has broader geographic coverage and more contracts with South American service providers

U.S. Phone Companies that are Not as Willing to Help You

T-Mobile and Cricket offer limited options and their International Plans are mostly geared towards travel in Canada or Mexico.

Sim Cards

The cheapest and best way to get your phone working in the city is to buy a Sim Card. Sim Cards are available from all the Mobile companies in Chile, particularly Movistar, Entel and Claro. Movistar and Entel are typically considered the best options in Chile, however Movistar beats out Entel when it comes to Data. The only issues with Sim Cards is that your U.S. service might refuse to unlock the Sim Card within your phone. Typically phones available to easily switch Sim cards include Verizon's iPhone 5 and up, Verizon is pretty relaxed with unlocking their Sim Cards for their most recent (and expensive phones). AT&T will unlock any phone not under an existing contract, free of charge. Other U.S. companies are not as willing, and if you are to have it done your phone must be in the U.S. In other words, you would have to unlock your phone before coming down to Chile. The most ironic bit about buying Sim Cards is that you can't do it in the actual telephone stores themselves, you can go to smaller retailer that look relatively sketchy or off the street and that will be cheaper and work better. Sim card selling stores can be found in the bottom floor of Costanera Center.

Buying Phones

However, if you are like me and you still have an iPhone 4s, you can't just swap out the Sim Card and instead must buy a "crappy Chilean phone," which I did at a local Department store (again you cannot buy actual phones at phone stores). It depends on what you are looking for, but we would suggest that if you buy a phone in Chile, get one that has access to data and roaming so that you can use Whatsapp, which is practically free, allows international calls and almost unlimited texted for minimal data usage. We also would suggest going to the store with a Chilean, otherwise you will be very confused, as much of the terminology is technical and not easily translated through online dictionaries.

Recarga

You may decide to pay for a plan in Chile, but we would not suggest it because it requires a two year contract at the bare minimum, which is a bit longer than the IBA program lasts. The better option is the prepaid phone plan, which is ridiculously cheap compared to the United States. Upon buying your original Sim Card, you will get a package that gives you minutes, texts and data. Once that runs out, you will have to recharge your phone and there are many options and locations to do that.

Pago Sencillo shops are within many Metros, and to use them you will have to pick up a number and wait for them to call you. You will also have to know your phone number in order to give it to the worker at the counter. There are also people walking through the metro with flag-suits that vaguely resemble the camera Bugmen from the Hunger Games. They have a flag on their back that says “*Recarga Aquí*” and you can go up, chat with them and recharge your phone. The most convenient recharge station we have found is in the Supermarkets, where you just ask the cashier at the front to recharge your phone and give them your number and they just add it on to the cost of your groceries. When they ask for your number, don’t give them the area code, just the eight digits that follow it. For example, my phone number is +56 9 8267 1616 and I only give them 8267 1616 when I want to recharge my phone.

Bolsas de Navegación (Data Plans)

Data and internet on your phone are the most important parts of the international plan, as many internationals and Chileans alike exclusively use Whatsapp, which is run off of data. After your initial package, you will recharge your phone and then have no access to data, even though you have a fully recharged (money-wise) phone. Each phone company sells different *Bolsas* for different amounts of data with different time frames during which you can actually use the data. In order to buy the plan, you will have to have downloaded on your phone the network provider of your Sim Card. Within that there are different tabs: *Saldo* (how much money is on your card), *Recargas* (when you last recharged), *Planes y Tarifas* (contracts), *Ayuda y Soporte* (Customer Service), *Tiendas* (shops near to you) and finally *Mis Bolsas* (where you can see and buy your data).

Movistar	Capacidad	Vigencia	Cost (CLP)
Bolsa 40 Megas	40 MB	2 days	\$990
Bolsa 150 Megas	150 MB	7 days	\$1.990
Bolsa 500 Megas	500 MB	15 days	\$4.990
Bolsa 1 Giga	1 GB	30 days	\$7.490 ⁸

Claro	Capacidad	Vigencia	Cost (CLP)
Bolsa 30 Megas	30 MB	1 day	\$1.000

⁸ Planes de Movistar. (2015). Retrieved December 27, 2015, from <http://www.movistar.cl/PortalMovistarWeb/telefonía-movil/bolsas-prepago/bolsas-de-navegacion>

Bolsa 50 Megas	50 MB	7 days	\$1.500
Bolsa 100 Megas	100 MB	7 days	\$2.000
Bolsa 200 Megas	200 MB	15 days	\$3.000
Bolsa 500 Megas	500 MB	30 days	\$5.000 ⁹

Entel	Capacidad	Vigencia	Cost (CLP)
Bolsa 1 hora	50 MB	1 hour	\$500
Bolsa 1 día	30 MB	1 day	\$500
Bolsa 7 días	100 MB	7 days	\$1.500
Bolsa 15 días	200 MB	15 days	\$2.500
Bolsa 30 días	350 MB	30 days	\$3.990
Bolsa 30 días	1 GB	30 days	\$7.500 ¹⁰

How Supermarkets Work

Super Market Chains in Chile

Líder (Walmart)

- Líder Express
- Híper Líder
 - Located at Estación Central
 - Located in La Reina

Cencosud

- Jumbo
 - Located in Costanera Center (largest)
 - Located near metro Francisco Bilbao
- Santa Isabel

Unimarc (not that great)

Tottus (owned by Falabella)

- Plaza Egaña

⁹Prepago Móvil: Compra bolsas y recarga en línea - Personas | Claro Chile. (2015). Retrieved December 27, 2015, from <http://www.claro Chile.cl/wps/portal/cl/pc/personas/movil/prepago#03-bolsas>

¹⁰ Compra tu Bolsa Prepago. *Entel*. (2016) Retrieved 18 March 2016 from <http://www.entel.cl/bolsasprepago/>

- Vicuña Mackena
Fresh Markets

- La Vega

Location: Antonia López de Bello, Santiago, Región Metropolitana

More info: <http://www.lavegacentral.com/33/index.php>

- El Mercado Central

Location: San Pablo, Santiago, Región Metropolitana

More info: <http://www.mercadocentral.cl/>

How to Blend in at a Supermarket:

Weigh Your Bakery Breads

Supermarkets insist on weighing and placing a sticker of the price on all of your acquired baked goods at a separate counter near to the bakery section. If you try to check out at the cashier without weighed and stickered bread, they will send you back to the individual bread weigher.

Weigh Your Fruits and Vegetables

The same exact system applies in the produce section. The only exception is that some of the vegetables have stickers on them already and prices established per item. However, this is a pretty confusing system so we typically just bring everything to the weigher of produce and show them one item at a time. You are probably an obvious foreigner, so they will put up with it.

Tip Your Bagger

After paying for your goods at the cash register, it is typically accepted that you tip the person who bags (and overbags) your goods. These guys are not always paid by the supermarket and get all their money from tips. They are trying to save up and pay for college, so I usually drop them a couple pesos. However, they are not great at appropriate bagging as they are volunteers, so reorganize your food stuff as you see fit (if you have to rearrange it by a lot, give them a small tip). You can also avoid the process through using reusable bags that you consistently choose to pack.

Public Transportation/ Cabs

Public Transportation Options

Typically within the city there are four main options: walk, bike, bus or metro.

Walking

You will walk more in Santiago than you could imagine, especially in the first couple of weeks. No matter how in shape you are, you will be sore. Additionally, you will walk so much that you will wear down the soles of your shoes significantly. Walking is the cheapest and easiest way to move throughout the city, and gives you a pretty good idea of where everything is in relation to each other. At the very least, you will want to try to be in walking distance to FEN in order to evade busy public transit in the mornings and afternoons.

Metro

This is the easiest and fastest way to move through the city. It costs about 1USD per use, but its ease can be worth the price. However, be warned that during rush hour you'll have to be ready to feel a bit like a sardine. Most mornings I get on the metro and am stuck in whatever position that I started with for at least two metro stops. You also have to be particularly careful with pickpockets, we have had no personal experiences with them but we know that they are very active on the Metro system, especially around Tobalaba Station. Morning rush hours are between 7:00am and 9:00am, although the start and end times fluctuate depending on the day of the week.

Mondays-Fridays	Horario Punto	Horario Valle	Horario Bajo
Hours	07:00-8:59:59 18:00-19:59:59	06:30-06:59:59 09:00-18:00 20:00-20:44:59	06:00-06:29:59 20:45-23:00
Metro	\$ 720	\$ 660	\$ 610
Bus + Metro	\$ 720	\$ 660	\$ 640
Student Card	\$ 210	\$ 210	\$ 210

Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays the cost of the Metro is the rate listed under Horario Valle. You have 120 minutes since the start of your first trip to make your transition from Metro to Bus, Bus to Bus to Metro, etc.

Metro Hours (estimates):

Monday-Friday

5:55am-11:00pm

Saturday

6:30am-11:30pm

Sundays and Holidays

8:00am-11:00pm

METRORED



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Biking

This is one of the fastest ways to move through the city, as you will not be stuck in any of the traffic “*tacos*” nor will you have to be squished together with fifty strangers. However, it can be dangerous if you do not follow the proper rules as

¹¹ Mapa Metro Red. (2015). Retrieved December 27, 2015, from http://www.cooperativa.cl/noticias/site/artic/20091229/asocfile/20091229113732/plano_red.jpg

drivers in Santiago are a bit crazy. We suggest a helmet, reflective vest and following all the rules of the road. Additionally, figure out where the nearest bike lanes are as it will speed up your commute, and make the city safer for you. You can buy bikes on the street Calle San Diego (go during the day), or cheaply on the weekends at the market on Paseo BíoBío (similarly guard your wallet). Additionally, Itaú has come to the city and made bike commuting easy, where you can rent their bikes for low rates. However, as this is a form of exercise, take care when biking during the winter that the smog reading is not too high.

Itaú

This is the first intercommunal public bike system in Chile, developed and operated by LATAM Bicycle specialist Trek International, the leading manufacturer of bicycles in the world. Itaú is a bank that has undertaken an initiative of making available to the people of Santiago an efficient, safe and sustainable solution for their transportation needs.



More information can be found at <http://www.bikesantiago.cl/>.

¹² Bikesantiago. (2015). Retrieved July 30, 2015, from <http://www.bikesantiago.cl/>

A great website to figure out your nearest bike lanes and routes:
<http://ridethecity.com/chile>

Bus

Buses are the ideal way to travel the city, so long as you know in what part of the city you are. They take you directly down well traveled roads and many apartment buildings have bus stops nearby, where the metro would be a bit of a walk away. Additionally, many buses run 24 hours a day, giving you a means to get home if you are out late and do not have money for a cab. However, buses do not tell you in what part of the city you are, so you will have to either befriend the bus driver, use GPS or have a great spacial understanding of the city. We typically approach the bus drivers and use our gringo accents to say, "*Perdón, me puede avisar cuando estamos insert location ?*" They are really nice and willing to help you.

BIP

The first time you go into a Metro station you should buy yourself a BIP card from either the automated machines or the box that says "*Recarga su BIP.*" It costs \$1.500 CLP to get one and every subsequent recharge should be for at least \$1.000, but makes your life much easier. Buses only take BIPs, and you can overcharge your BIP by two rides between 11pm and 9am, giving you a means to get home if you are truly without money. Otherwise, you have to approach the ticket window on every Metro ride to buy a ticket, whereas with a BIP you can easily avoid the hassle of inefficient waiting lines.

Student BIP

This is the ideal form of transportation as it cuts down your travel fare significantly. You can only receive one of these if you come to Chile on a Student Visa, and you must have a Cédula to even apply. The international office will tell you where to go to register and take your student pass photo, and they will email you to let you know when your pass is ready as well. However, do not enter the semester with this as your idea for transit as the process takes forever. The photo was taken about three months into being in Santiago and the ID finally arrived over the winter vacations for many IBA students.

Cabs

Cabs are a great way to get around town if you have a large amount of luggage with you, if you are lost or if you still have not figured out the bus system and you need to get home. They start at 300 CLP and typically have an end cost of between \$3000-\$5000 CLP depending on the distance. The cabs are typically safe, however they might drive you around a bit in circles to up the cost. If they try to charge you an upfront rate, if there are an unnecessary number of wires connected to meter or if there is no meter at all, say no and take a different one. Additionally, have a pretty good idea of where the address is that you are going to, such as if there are any big roads nearby because they do not always know the city well enough to go without

your help (which does seem ridiculous). There are two primary applications that can be used on Smartphones that almost always guarantee a good taxi ride: SaferTaxi and Easy Taxi. However, we are still strong advocates of using public transportation instead, as it just saves you the hassle.

How to get Money (Conversions)

The simplest way to get money is through ATM's. The only issue with it is that some US banks charge fees for non-bank-affiliated ATMs, while at the same time that the local ATM may be charging you fees. One way to cut down on these costs is through using ATMs from BancoEstado, these machines will only charge you the fees associated with your US bank. If you wish to avoid any and all fees related to ATMs, there are a couple of ways to make it work. One such way is through opening a bank account with a US bank that charges no ATM fees and reimburses any transaction fees associated with the Chilean ATMs. The most widely used and easily attainable account is through Charles Schwab.

Charles Schwab: International Brokerage Account

This account boasts no service fees to open or maintain the account, as well as no ATM fees anywhere in the world, as they refund any fees charged. This account comes with a brokerage account as well as a checking account, in order to receive your debit card you'll have to transfer the money deposited into your Brokerage Account into your Checking account. Upon the completion of that transfer, the company is notified and your card is sent within the week.

Additionally, you can exchange U.S. Dollars for Chilean Pesos at banks in Chile, but the conversion takes a while as you must wait in the line with all the Chileans who need to pay their bills or make deposits. The quickest way to get money is through ATMs.

How to Pay for Utilities/Lights/Internet

Paying bills in Chile is surprisingly easy, as many Chileans do it over the web much like in the States. However, as most of the bills that you may have to pay are in the name of your landlord or sublessor, webpay is typically not a viable option. Luckily there are plentiful options to choose from in order to pay: kiosks, Pago Sencillo, banks and Servipag all have the means to verify that you have paid your bills. The kiosks are our personal preference and you can find them inside of grocery stores; to use them you simply locate your bill provider and type in the ID number of your bill. You can then print out the amount and pay for it alongside your groceries at the cashier. These kiosks are fancy, with the option to aggregate all of your bills together under an account and print off all of them at the same time.

Additionally, if you choose the option of opening a *Cuenta RUT* with Banco Estado, you can pay all of your bills online and avoid the inevitable lines at the various cashiers.

Chilean Culture

(Brief) History of Chile

The Chilean fight for independence from Spain started in between 1808 and 1810, occurring simultaneously alongside similar fights for independence from Spain throughout Latin America in reaction to the tax collection methods and the creation of the *criollo* class in Chile (American-born Spaniards), who increasingly longed for self-governance. The fight was brought to isolated Chile by the Argentine liberator José de San Martín who marched across the Andes on the way to Lima, appointing Bernardo O'Higgins as second-in-command of his forces. O'Higgins became the supreme dictator of the new Chilean republic upon the country's liberation in 1818 and ruled for the first five years.

The first impact of Chile in international affairs came in 1879-1884 with the War of the Pacific, where Chile, acting for its commercial interests, annexed vast areas of land from Peru and Bolivia. This war gave Chile dominion over Bolivian Antofagasta, and Peruvian Tacna and Arica, robbing Bolivia of all access to the Pacific. This remains one of Chile's most important wars and a foundational aspect to why tensions still run between the three countries. Further land came in 1888 with the annexation of Easter Island, however in this same period Chile lost large stretches of Patagonia to Argentina.

Chile's economic history begins with its global dominance of nitrate exports and then global dominance of copper exports, leading the industry to this day. However this over-dependence has led the economy to follow the cyclical nature of commodity prices (as shown in **Current Issues Facing Chileans**).

Fast forward to 1970, when Salvador Allende was narrowly elected to power as the world's first democratically elected Marxist president, supported by the political party Unidad Popular (UP). His presidency first had problems from the lack of unity within his party, but soon fell into deeper problems from the economic plan. Allende's economic program included the state takeover of many private enterprises and massive income redistribution, leading to apprehension from many businessmen and landowners worried about nationalization and expropriation. Industrial production fell quickly, leading to shortages, hyperinflation and black marketeering. Peasants seized land and agricultural production fell, and the government had to use scarce foreign currency to import food, leading to nationwide shortages. Issues arose with the U.S. from expropriation of US-controlled copper mines and other enterprises, along with the government's friendly relations with Cuba. Later it was revealed that the U.S. President Nixon actively undercut Allende by discouraging credit from international finance organizations and through support of his opponents. The first attempt at a military coup of the government failed in June 1973, provoked by a widespread truckers' strike that occurred once again after the attempted coup.

On September 11, 1973 General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte unleashed a brutal golpe de estado that overthrew the UP government and resulted in Allende's death (an apparent suicide) and the deaths of thousands of Allende supporters. Later on, US president Bill Clinton released files showing 30 years of US government covert aid to undermine Allende and create the stage for the coup d'état. Police and the military apprehended thousands of leftists, suspected leftists and sympathizers, many of whom were herded into the National Stadium, where they suffered beatings, torture and even executions. Hundreds of thousands went into exile.

Pinochet's military dictatorship lasted from 1973 until 1989, as he headed a durable junta that dissolved Congress, banned leftist parties and suspended all others, prohibited nearly all political activity and ruled by decree. Pinochet sought to reorder the country's political and economic culture through repression, torture and murder. The Caravan of Death, a group of military that traveled by helicopter from town to town, killed many of his political opponents (many of whom had turned themselves in voluntarily). Assassinations of high ranking potential opponents became commonplace, even abroad in foreign nations, including a car bombing of Allende's foreign minister, Orlando Letelier, in Washington, D.C. Thousands more "disappeared" during the 17-year regime.

The regime began to falter in 1983, when leftist groups started to reform and stage demonstrations. The dictatorship officially fell in 1988, when Pinochet failed to acquire enough votes for a plebiscite and a democratic election occurred in 1989, where opposition candidate Patricio Aylwin, of the Christian Democratic party, won and became the new president and leader of the nation¹³.

Since the return of democracy, all presidents have been center-left with the exception of Sebastián Piñera (president 2010-2014). The current president is Michelle Bachelet, who is currently serving her second term.

Classism or "Class Consciousness"

Chile is a country characterized by a mature neoliberal regime and paradoxically also by one of the highest rates of economic growth in the region paired with high levels of social inequality (Gini Index: 50.5 (2013), which ranks it as one of the top twentieth most unequal societies in the world¹⁴). Recent student protests, subcontracted workers' strikes, etc. have called for change and for the addressing of the blatant inequality in Chilean society, with limited success. Research into class consciousness by Pablo Pérez-Ahumada further revealed the huge divisions between classes, and went further to say that the Chilean working class, and the prevalence of unionization, shapes "higher oppositional class interests," working actively to thwart classes other than their own, though that reaction decreases with age. In contrast, the Chilean elite are characterized by a demographic class

¹³ <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/chile/history>

¹⁴ <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI>

formation derived from high levels of social closure and class immobility, which go on to form a uniform level of oppositional class consciousness throughout the class.¹⁵ To put it into perspective, the top 10 percent of the population in Chile holds 43 percent of the income share, compared to 30 percent income share in the United States within that same top 10 percent.¹⁶

Education

Tertiary education (or college level education) is one of the most expensive education systems in the world when compared to per capita GDP.

	United States	Chile
Per Capita Income (US\$) (2014) ¹⁷	\$54,629.50	\$14,528.3
Annual Costs of College in USD including Room and Board	Public 2-Year Colleges: \$11,052 Public 4-Year Colleges (in-State fees): \$18,943 Public 4-Year Colleges (out-of-State fees): \$32,762 Private nonprofit 4 -Year colleges: \$42,419 ¹⁸	UdC FEN for the degree of Ingeniería Comercial: \$7,171 Ingeniería en Información y Control de Gestión: \$6,311 Contador Auditor: \$6,311 ¹⁹
% of 25-34 Year Olds with a College Degree	43.13%	41.30% ²⁰

Education reforms since the 1990s have allowed parents more schooling options in Chile through the creation of a weighted voucher (more than 50 percent over the base voucher) to compensate for the higher costs of educating disadvantaged

¹⁵ Pérez-Ahumada. (23 June 2014). Class consciousness in a mature neoliberal society: Evidence from Chile. *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, 38 (57-75). Published by Elsevier Ltd.

¹⁶ Alves, Fatima and Elecqua, Gregory. (Winter 2014).

¹⁷ GDP per Capita retrieved for 2014 from the World Bank website, accessed here: <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD>

¹⁸ Retrieved from <http://www.topuniversities.com/student-info/student-finance/how-much-does-it-cost-study-us> however the website quotes the data as from Collegeboard.

¹⁹ Exchange rate used: 1USD=643.7CLP, data retrieved from <http://www.uchile.cl/portal/admision-y-matriculas/aranceles-y-credito/aranceles/4934/alumnos-nuevos>

²⁰ Information retrieved from Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_25%E2%80%9334_year-olds_having_a_tertiary_education_degree

students and to incentivize schools to enroll low-income students. The reforms also banned any type of student selection process in elementary school, and limited secondary school assessments to the child, in that parent interviews were prohibited. Schools could also not expel students because of inability to pay monthly school fees, and finally private voucher schools could not charge monthly fees to low-income families. In the past 15 years, these reforms increased the private-voucher enrollment rate from one-third to one-half of all school-age children.

Assessments began to be administered to all 4th, 8th and 10th grade students, aggregating results to the level of the school and creating a ranking system that divided all public and private-voucher schools into three categories based on student performance and adjusted for students' background characteristics. The two lowest categories had to develop improvement plans and were subjected to increased oversight by the government.

These reforms have had success as Chile now has high school graduation rates close to 90 percent, a ratio similar to those seen in the United States, Germany and Australia. In the early 1990s, only 15 percent of students enrolled in higher education whereas more than 50 percent do today. Seven out of ten college students in Chile are the first generation in their families to attend college.

Primary concerns with this newly improved system are felt by the middle class, in that though access has increased to educational institutions, those institutions did not have similar growth and uniformity in quality. For example, in tests standardized internationally, 67 percent of high-income students performed above Chile's proficiency level, compared to only 11 percent of low-income students. This is primarily due to the prominence of independent private education among the Chilean elite upper class²¹. An example of selective access to some of the top schools is that certain German Schools (where they are taught German in addition to all their other classes-- think American School abroad) only allow admission to students who have at least one parent that has also attended a German school.

Chileans can tell the "quality" of a person by their last names, by the high school they went to and by the university they attended.

Inequality in the Workplace²²

A study was conducted in 2004 by students of FEN using individual data from several cohorts of graduates from FEN, to find class wage gaps and the possible

²¹ Alves, Fatima and Elacqua, Gregory. (Winter 2014).

²² Núñez, Javier and Gutiérrez, Roberto. (Abril 2004) "Classism, Discrimination and Meritocracy in the Labor Market: The Case of Chile." Departamento de Economía: Facultad de Ciencias Económicas y Administrativas, Universidad de Chile. Retrieved from <http://www2.facso.uchile.cl/sociologia/1060225/docs/chile/nunez.pdf>.

correlations. Such correlations included gender, academic performance at University, (high) school academic quality, second language proficiency, four measures of socioeconomic background, race and physical appearance. The class wage gaps, the gap of earnings between people of upper and lower classes, amounted to approximately 25 to 35 percent. This had a higher correlation than any other category, including performance at the university. Essentially, that meant that if you are poor and still go to a high quality university like FEN, many of your upper class peers can not take classes seriously and still end up earning 25 to 35 percent more than you.

This class discrimination contradicts the shared principles of equal opportunities and meritocracy, inhibits social mobility and perpetuates economic inequality. It also has spurred some of the strongest protests and student movements in Chile.

Ethnic Breakdown²³

White and non-indigenous:	88.9%
Mapuche:	9.1%
Aymara:	0.7%
Other indigenous groups: <i>(includes Rapa Nui, Likan Antai, Quechua, Colla, Diaguita, Kawesqar, Yagan or Yamana)</i>	1%
Unspecified:	0.3%

Chile is unique in that Spanish and Amerindian descendants have mixed incessantly since the Spanish conquest, and the size of the afro-american population has historically been negligible. This has resulted in Chilean society not being defined by race or ethnic ties, so much as by socioeconomic class.²⁴

International Relations

Chile is a member of APEC, BIS, BRICS, CAN (observer country), CD, CELAC, FAO, G-15, G-77, IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC (national committees), ICRM, IDA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCs, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, IMSO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, ITUC (NGOs), LAES, LAIA, Mercosur (observer country), MIGA, MINUSTAH, NAM, OAS, OECD, OPANAL, OPCW, Pacific Alliance, PCA, SICA (observer country), UN, UN Security Council (temporary), UNASUR, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNFICYP, UNHCR,

²³ Chile Ethnic groups. (n.d.). Retrieved October 20, 2015, from http://www.indexmundi.com/chile/ethnic_groups.html

²⁴ Núñez, Javier and Gutiérrez, Roberto. (Abril 2004) "Classism, Discrimination and Meritocracy in the Labor Market: The Case of Chile." Departamento de Economía: Facultad de Ciencias Económicas y Administrativas, Universidad de Chile. Retrieved from <http://www2.facso.uchile.cl/sociologia/1060225/docs/chile/nunez.pdf>.

UNIDO, Union Latina, UNMOGIP, UNTSO, UNWTO, UPU, WCO, WFTU (NGOs), WHO, WIPO, WMO, and WTO.²⁵

At the end of 2015, Chile was made an official member of the TPP (Trans Pacific Partnership), along with Peru and Mexico. The goal of the TPP is to "promote economic growth; support the creation and retention of jobs; enhance innovation, productivity and competitiveness; raise living standards; reduce poverty in our countries; and promote transparency, good governance, and enhanced labor and environmental protections."²⁶ Chile, as well as most of the Pacific Alliance, is generally regarded to be moving towards becoming more integrated and having greater influence on the global economic stage. It is the only Latin American member of NAFTA besides Mexico and has very close trade relations with the United States.²⁷

More recently, Chile has entered into a legal dispute with Bolivia concerning Bolivia's access to the Pacific. In 1884, Chile and Bolivia signed a treaty that ended the War of the Pacific that ceded 240 miles of coastline to the Chilean victors. In September of 2015, the UN's International Court of Justice ruled that it would hear Bolivia's case for a reevaluation of its access to the Pacific Ocean. The case is expected to continue for at least another 6 months. Chilean President Michelle Bachelet has been quoted saying, "Bolivia hasn't won anything."²⁸

Stray Dogs

One of the first differences you will notice to be different in Chile will be the large number of stray dogs that roam the streets. These dogs are typically pretty large and friendly, and are mostly tolerated due to the fact that Chile is free of rabies. These dogs are known as "Quiltros" and are either owned by individuals and left to roam free or collectively owned by the population. This collective ownership is seen through instances of people leaving piles of dog food outside of their apartments, as well as through the dogs being given free jackets during the winter months. Regardless, they are a very present part of the city and you can happily pet and love on them, but be warned they will follow you and your heart will break when you

²⁵ Chile International organization participation. (n.d.). Retrieved October 20, 2015, from http://www.indexmundi.com/chile/international_organization_participation.html

²⁶ Summary of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement | United States Trade Representative. (2015, October 1). Retrieved December 25, 2015, from <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2015/october/summary-trans-pacific-partnership>

²⁷ Peña, F. (2015, October 13). ¿A LA VEZ, POSIBILIDAD CREIBLE, REALIDAD CONFUSA Y ESPEJISMOS? Por Félix Peña - Investigación y Análisis sobre América Latina y la Unión Europea - Panorámica Latinoamericana. Retrieved October 20, 2015, from <http://www.panoramical.eu/america-latina-y-caribe/a-la-vez-posibilidad-creible-realidad-confusa-y-espejismos-por-felix-pena/>

²⁸ Woody, C. (2015, October 4). Chile and Bolivia are still arguing over the outcome of a war they fought 131 years ago. Retrieved October 20, 2015, from <http://www.businessinsider.com/chile-bolivia-sea-access-land-dispute-2015-10>

have to leave them outside. We have only heard of one instance of someone being chased by a Quiltro, with the only other damages done being had by the Quiltros versus car tires on Alameda. Bachelet has proposed reforms to “doggy policy” with a bill on Responsible Pet Ownership that was approved by Congress in 2014. She has also called for publicly owned sterilization clinics, saying that the most wealthy can afford to spay and neuter their pets, leaving the poorer families unable to afford that same level of pet care, contributing to the large number of roaming strays in the streets.²⁹

Chilenismos

Words that are Unique to Chile

Pololo(a): means boyfriend or girlfriend, *novio(a)* means more fiancée

Palta: avocado

Weon/Weona: dude/girl (informal), depending on the setting could be considered a curse

Cachai: do you understand?

Chela: beer

Turbochela: shotgun (a beer)

Bacán: cool

La raja: the shit, cool, great

Carrete: party, can also be used as a verb (e.g. carretear)

Mina: girl

Flojera: lazy

Flaite: sketchy person or place (may be used as an adjective or a noun)

Trago: mixed drink

Curses

Whether or not you choose to use them, curse words are an extremely common part of the Chilean dialect--especially among students. Sometimes it is impossible to understand anything they are saying because they use words such as “wea” to substitute as pronouns with unclear antecedents.

Put a la weá: son of a bitch/fuck this shit

Weá: shit

Maraca: slut, whore

Concha tu madre: most common Chilean curse word, used like “motherfucker”

Andate a la chucha: go to hell

Culiar: to fuck

Perra: bitch

Zorra: whore

Colloquial Phrases

²⁹ (7 June 2014). Spay as you go.

No hay mano: Essentially means that “It will not be” or whatever action you are asking about will not happen.

Al seco: chanted in place of “chug, chug, chug” when encouraging someone to finish their beverage.

Estar andando: hooking up with someone, but not in an exclusive relationship

In addition to the words and phrases we have mentioned above, we also recommend [How to Survive in the Chilean Jungle 2](#) by John Brennan. This book will provide you with a more comprehensive look into Chileanisms and the unique dialect spoken in Santiago and throughout Chile.

Chilean Relationships

One aspect that you will notice about the park system in Chile is that it is full of pairs of various Chilean couples, and they are very actively engaged in their relationship. You will then start to notice it everywhere: the metro system, grocery stores, lines in general. This society is much more PDA (public displays of affection) friendly than the U.S. and if you do not adapt, you will quickly feel uncomfortable. The reasoning behind this phenomenon is that most Chileans live with their parents until they are in their mid to late-20s. So if a Chilean wants some “alone time” with their significant other, they ironically select a park or a metro station to get cozy and passionate.

During your time in Chile, you may have the opportunity to date a Chilean. Dating someone from Chile is a tremendous opportunity to more intimately immerse yourself in the culture, consistently practice your Spanish, and develop meaningful relationships with people from different cultural backgrounds. Here are just a few things to keep in mind when dating a Chilean:

Dating Chilean Girls

Chilean girls do not share the fervor for gringos that Chilean men have for gringas. Initially, you can expect Chilenas to be shy and a little “stand-offish.” Chilenas are used to being surrounded and courted by Latin American men--who are much more aggressive and persistent in their efforts than what would be deemed appropriate in the U.S. If you like a Chilean girl and want to get her attention, make sure you are bold and straightforward with your words and actions. Be wary that if you do start dating a Chilena, they are likely to become attached much more quickly than their counterparts from the U.S. Things may start to feel “too serious” after only a couple weeks of dating. This isn’t a reason to shy away from a relationship, just make sure you maintain an open-line of communication and share how you are feeling.

Dating Chilean Guys

In general, Chilenos can be much more aggressive than U.S. guys, especially at parties. That especially applies outside of your friend group, when *gringas* are much more easily objectified. However, this changes when you start heading towards more serious relationships. The first part you have to remember is that many

college-aged *chilenos* still live with their parents, likely without a job outside of their *presupuesto* (allowance). In some ways, dating under those terms is very similar to dating back in high school. Keep in mind that developing a meaningful relationship may take more time, as they will likely be pretty intimidated by the idea of dating a *gringa*, especially speaking English (even if you are willing to just speak Spanish). These factors combined with different cultural norms, such as more "PDA," make dating in Chile a challenging and rewarding experience. Many of the specifics change relationship to relationship, but the trend of "getting serious quick" also applies for *chilenos*, as the idea of "casual relationships" has not become as prevalent.

Fashion in Chile

By Featured IBA Student: Evan Hanna



Fashion in Chile is not what you will be expecting if you are accustomed to the fraternity fashion or pretty much any fashion style outside of the bohemian parts of NYC and San Francisco. It is very European influenced--with a tinge of mountain gear. Maybe more than a tinge: mountain trekking shoes are actually a trend.

Chilean women love platform shoes and you can expect to see everything from platform sandals to sneakers. Gentlemen, now is a good time to get those jeans tailored. Baggy, loose jeans are the clear cut sign that you are a gringo and that you are inadvertently screaming, "Please steal my iPhone/wallet/etc." It's much easier to pick pocket loose jeans than it is form-fitting ones, remember that. Also, leave most of your greek gear at home. Greek letters and pastels are guaranteed to make you stand out and look touristy--generally not a good thing in Santiago.

Neutral colors are the norm, much like most european fashion. You will already stand out, being on average taller, thinner, and more fair featured than the majority of the Chilean population. Get ready to feel like a model because you're going to be turning a lot of heads. But trying to dress a little more chileno can go a long way in helping you to blend in and make yourself less of a target for pickpockets and thieves. Besitos.

Carrete

Good v. Bad parts of town

After arriving in Santiago, you will quickly find that most Chileans think their city is more dangerous than it actually is. So long as you exercise a reasonable amount of caution and do not crawl home from bars on your hands and knees, you should not have any trouble. Nonetheless, knowing the not-so-great parts of the city and how to avoid them will ensure your experience in Santiago is a positive one. Between attending classes at FEN and going out to eat and dance in Bellavista, you will find yourself spending a lot of time in the “Centro” part of the city. The Baquedano metro station is a good dividing point for the city. The further south of Baquedano you travel, the less safe the city generally becomes; you will hear locals joke about Puente Alto being the most “flaite” part of the city, and it is the southernmost stop on the purple line on the metro. Vicuña Mackenna serves as the dividing street for Centro. All the areas west of Vicuña Mackenna tend to be less safe than the areas to the east. Centro is generally safe for students--the nicest part of centro is Barrio Lastarria which is a 10 minute walk east from FEN. Providencia is a safe area very near Centro and only requires you to exercise a little caution after dark. Las Condes is the new business district (this where you will find the offices for all the multinational companies in Chile)--it is extremely safe, albeit farther from FEN. Vitacura and Lo Barnechea are two of the nicest suburbs in Santiago; these neighborhoods are nicer than most of the neighborhoods you will find in the United States but are located far outside the city. There are places to drink and party at all of these locations, but you will find Bellavista is the best place to spend your evenings.

Bellavista is Santiago’s Five Points--but safer. Bellavista is pretty evenly distributed on either side of Calle Pio Nono. This street also serves as a dividing line that separates the nicer clubs from the more flaite ones. Everything west of Pio Nono is considered more flaite while everything east of Pio Nono tends to be more upscale. This does not mean you should not venture west of Pio Nono--as you will find better prices and some of Bellavista’s best clubs here. Just remember to exercise a little extra caution.

Entrance Fees

For many of the dance clubs or discotecas in Santiago, there are entrance fees to be admitted. These fees may only apply to males, or may apply to everyone--be sure to ask if you are unsure. As a general rule, clubs usually do not charge for entrance prior to midnight. Fees range from 3.000-7.000CLP. Typically a drink is included with your entrance fee. You will be given a ticket at the door that can be exchanged for one mixed drink or beer.

Miércoles Po

Miércoles Po is a weekly event that is hosted at different clubs around Santiago. Girls receive free admission all night. Guys receive free admission until midnight with an international ID. After midnight, guys may still enter for 5.000CLP with an international ID. M'Po is very popular with the Chilean men (even though they pay significantly more to get in), and your friends will probably ask you to borrow your ID. Miércoles Po is the most fun you can have during the week and is a *must* for international students (just maybe not every week). Everything you need to know about this event, including the location for each week, can be found at www.mpo.cl.

Flaite

“Flaite” is a colloquial Chilean word used to describe sketchy situations, places, or people. The closest equivalent we have in the U.S. is “ghetto.” As a general rule of thumb, flaite people, places, and situations are to be avoided if at all possible. If you ever have doubts about whether or not something is flaite, always consult the nearest Chilean--who will be extremely amused that you know this word in the first place.

Tobacco

In January 2013, the Chilean Congress modified the existing tobacco legislation which came into effect in March 2013. The most significant change was the prohibition of smoking in all enclosed public spaces. It also restricts tobacco advertising, through restrictions on direct and indirect advertising of tobacco and tobacco-related products as well as reduces tobacco's visibility in the media. However, the consumption of tobacco remains a huge part of Chilean culture. The legislation had an adverse effect on tobacco sales, which, when combined with increasing prices of tobacco (Chile has one of the highest tax rates in the world, with taxes accounting for 78% of the pack price), caused many consumers to trade down to economy brands over premium products. The tobacco lobby had some success though, and menthol (non-capsule) cigarettes remain legal and sold throughout Chile, despite allegations that they increase the risk of addiction.³⁰

In fact, in Latin America there are 145 million smokers and of that 145 million, 9.7 million reside in Chile.³¹ Chile, along with Uruguay, has the highest tobacco consumption prevalence in the region, with levels comparable to European countries. Chile is classified as a country with a low consumption (less than 10 cigarettes per smoker per day) but a high prevalence, in that much of the country smokes³². In fact, Chilean women have the highest smoking rates in Latin America, with an estimated smoking prevalence of about 37%, and male daily smoking

³⁰ (July 2014). Tobacco in Chile.

³¹ Alday, Jorge. (27 June 2013).

³² Dwyer-Lindgren, L., Thomson, B., Fleming, T.D., Freeman, M.K., Ng, Marie and Robinson, M. (8 January 2014).

prevalence is also high at 44%. With all of this in mind, you will notice a large amount of people, including the friends you will make, who smoke cigarettes and smoke consistently³³. You will also be assailed by tobacco almost every time you walk outside in Santiago, regardless of the smog warnings and if you are anti-tobacco, you are the minority in Chile. Keeping that in mind, sharing an anti-tobacco mindset can be seen as useful, but can also be seen as ignorance of Chilean culture.

Marijuana

Marijuana policy in Chile has undergone significant changes in the past years. The most recent laws with respect to marijuana possession and consumption are detailed below:

Law 20.000 formally decriminalised drug possession for immediate personal use in a private setting. Drug use or possession in public places is defined as a crime punishable by fines, mandatory treatment, community service and/or suspension of the individual's driver's license. Cannabis use is not penalised, but growing the plant is, "unless one can justify that it is for exclusive personal consumption and use in the short term" (Article 8). Possession for personal use can be punished with minor fines, community service or mandatory participation in rehabilitation programmes. While the majority of cases conclude with these fines being suspended or only with administrative sanctions put in place, some people who are detained with small quantities still do end up in prison.³⁴

Although marijuana laws are not heavily enforced and is extremely common for Chileans to smoke marijuana in public (parks, schools, etc.).

Legal steps have been taken by the government to legalize possession and use of marijuana in small amounts. This has been passed by the lower house, but both the Senate and a health commission still need to approve the law for it to go into effect. This bill would allow residents to possess up to 10 grams of cannabis and grow up to six plants³⁵.

Traveling

Chilean Holidays/ Días Feriados

Feriados

Festividad	Día	Tipo de Feriado
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³³ Alday, Jorge. (27 June 2013).

³⁴ Chile - Drug Law Reform in Latin America. (n.d.). Retrieved December 25, 2015, from <http://druglawreform.info/country-information/latin-america/chile/item/202-chile#2>

³⁵ (8 July 2015). "High time: Legalization of cannabis in Chile moves a step closer." *RT News*. Retrieved 19 March 2016 from <https://www.rt.com/news/272380-chile-marijuana-bill-passed/>.

Día Domingo	Every Sunday	Civil
Año Nuevo	January 1st	Civil
Viernes Santo	First Friday of April	Religious
Sábado Santo	First Saturday of April	Religious
Día Nacional del Trabajo	May 1st	Civil
Día de las Glorias Navales	May 21st	Civil
San Pedro y San Pablo	June 29th	Religioso
Día de la Virgen del Carmen	July 16th	Religious
Asunción de la Virgen	August 15th	Religious
Independencia Nacional	September 18th	Civil
Día de las Glorias del Ejército	September 19th	Civil
Encuentro de Dos Mundos	October 12th	Civil
Día de las Iglesias Evangélicas y Protestantes	October 31st	Religious
Día de Todos Los Santos	October 31st	Religious
Inmaculada Concepción	December 8th	Religious
Navidad	December 25th	Religious

Fiestas Patrias

The “Fiestas Patrias” are Chile’s independence celebrations. While the actual celebration is officially the 18th of September, you can expect the festivities to last the entire month. As September begins, you will start to notice extra flags hanging in the streets and balloons suspended from the ceilings. In the week leading up to the 18th, you will be able to attend “Fondas”--which are the cultural centers of the holiday celebrations. Fondas will feel very similar to State Fairs in the United States;

there will be lots of food stands, dancing, live music, and activities. You will be able to find all of your favorite chilean foods. A tip on the terremotos: pace yourself. You will most likely spend all day at these festivals, and more than three terremotos will leave you facedown in the grass and out for the count.



Internationally

Living in Santiago for a year gives you a tremendous opportunity to travel and explore South America. Make sure you plan your trips well in advance to ensure that you receive the best travel prices (especially for flights). Traveling between countries in South America is much more expensive than traveling between countries in Europe--careful planning and budgeting are key to making sure you get to see as much of South America as possible. When possible, bus travel is significantly cheaper than flying and often a very scenic experience in itself. The prices below are subject to variation depending on the season and current exchange rates and listed in U.S. dollars.

Argentina

Entrance fee:	\$160 (10 year re-entry)
Average flight from Santiago (round trip):	\$230 (Buenos Aires)
Average bus from Santiago (round trip):	\$40 (Mendoza)

Bolivia

Entrance fee:	Varies (10 year re-entry) ³⁶
Average flight from Santiago (round trip):	\$250 (La Paz)

Brazil

Entrance fee (+ Visa Requirement):	\$160 (10 year re-entry)
Average flight from Santiago (round trip):	\$300 (Rio de Janeiro)

Peru

Entrance fee:	None
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³⁶ Entrance fee is subject to change from person to person (Average: \$60-\$160) Supposedly \$160 gets you a 10 year visit and a stamp in your passport, which might be worth it if you want to avoid any issues getting back into Chile (this information pertains to entrance from the Chilean Frontera in San Pedro de Atacama).

Average flight from Santiago (round trip):	\$250 (Lima)
Average bus from Santiago (round trip):	\$65 (Lima)
Uruguay	
Entrance fee:	None
Average flight from Santiago (round trip):	\$320 (Montevideo)
Average ferry from Buenos Aires (round trip):	\$100 (Montevideo)

DO NOT TRAVEL Countries

Venezuela and Paraguay are both on our DO NOT TRAVEL list. These countries are notorious for violent crime, kidnapping, and general dislike for United States citizens. Venezuelans and Paraguayans can be very friendly people--but it is best to converse with them outside of their home countries.

Jake: "Hey, I've heard that it's not safe for me to travel to your country."

Venezuelan girl: "Yes, that's right. You are too blonde; you would be killed."

Domestically

Chile stretches over a huge expanse of latitudes--making the country one of the most geographically diverse in the world. While traveling around to other countries in South America is exciting and important, don't forsake your home country!

Remember that many of Chile's hotspots can be physically taxing to explore (Isla de Pascua, San Pedro de Atacama, Torres del Paíne). So make sure you are physically prepared for your excursions. Consulting with Chileans about your travel before you make your plans is a great way to make sure you get the best prices and accommodations. The prices below are listed in U.S. dollars.

Viña/ Valparaíso

Average bus from Santiago (round trip): **\$6-12** (Valparaíso)

Torres del Paíne

Average flight from Santiago (round trip): **\$200-400** (Punta Arenas)

Average bus from Punta Arenas (round trip): **\$40** (Puerto Natales)

Average bus from Puerto Natales (round trip): **\$20** (Torres del Paíne)

La Serena

Average bus from Santiago (round trip): **\$40** (La Serena)

San Pedro de Atacama

Average flight from Santiago (round trip): **\$180** (Calama)

Average bus from Santiago (round trip): **\$25** Calama)

Vendimias

Average bus from Santiago: **\$15** (Santa Cruz)

Isla de Pascua

Average flight from Santiago (round trip): **\$500-600** (Hanga Roa)

Visits from Family

During your time in Santiago, family members or friends may want to visit you and explore your new home in South America. For information on the best way to plan your visits from family and friends, see Appendix 2.

La Universidad de Chile/ FEN

Difficulty of Classes

The difficulty of classes at FEN varies greatly depending on which courses you decide to take. You will hear from the Chileans you meet before that their university is significantly more difficult than the University of South Carolina--this is not necessarily the case. Most of us found FEN to be much easier than our typical coursework at USC. The main determinant in your class difficulty will be whether you choose to take an elective course or a core course. Core courses like “Finanzas III” or “Gestión de Empresas” tend to require more work and prove more difficult than elective courses like “Viticultura” or “Latin America in World Affairs.” Another important factor to keep in mind is how your grades will be evaluated while you are in Chile. All international credits earned for the University of South Carolina transfer as pass/fail credits. At FEN, in order to be considered “passing,” you will need to receive a grade of at least a 4.0 in a course. Below you can see the breakdown of grading in Chile. Receiving a 7.0 in a course is pretty unheard of (Chileans say “el siete es para Dios”), but receiving a 4.0 is very achievable--even in the most difficult courses. However, that being said it may not always be a “cakewalk”; the courses at FEN are created in such a way that it is acceptable and expected for students in the class to fail, though only a portion. Furthermore, ask your Chilean friends about the course and the potentially needed prerequisites so as to avoid classes you truly are not prepared for. That being said, the harder classes in Spanish have to be taken seriously, or you risk missing out on that 4.0.

Table of Chilean GPA

GPA	% Achievement	Meaning	Honours
6.0 - 7.0	83% - 100%	Outstanding (7.0)	Highest Honours
5.0 - 5.9	66% - 82%	Good	Honours
4.0 - 4.9	50% - 65%	Sufficient	Passed
3.0 - 3.9	33% - 49%	Less than Sufficient	Failed
2.0 - 2.9	16% - 32%	Deficient	Failed
1.0 - 1.9	0% - 15%	Very Deficient	Failed

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Brief Review/Rate My Professor of Classes Taken by Gringos

See Appendix 3.

FEN Wikipedia Page

<http://wikifen.wiki/>

You can use this page to see reviews of past professors by former FEN Chilean students, however it is not as readily updated as Rate My Professor, so do not expect the same quality of reviews. Additionally, Chileans have very distinct opinions about classes that are quite different from the opinions of internationals.

Food in Santiago

Special Dietary Needs

Some dietary preferences or needs that are easy in the U.S. are considered very difficult down here. Examples of dietary preferences include: gluten free, vegetarian, and vegan. Interestingly enough, lactose intolerance is very easy to manage as many Chileans are lactose intolerant themselves. Due to this, in grocery stores you can find lactose-free anything before you find soy or almond milk at all. Accommodations for food preferences are easily managed through shopping and cooking for yourself, with larger stores such as Jumbo carrying many specialty ingredients. Life gets more complicated when you factor in shopping and eating from street vendors and restaurants. Some do not know what your preference means, and believe that you can just pull the meat off the meal or have no adaptation at all. Moreover, items that appear to be vegetarian on the street such as *sopaipillas* can actually be meat filled, and made using *manteca* (animal lard). If you are very restricted to a certain diet and it is self-imposed, you might want to consider loosening your restrictions. If your preference is due to an allergy, we

³⁷ Grading System in Chile. (2015). Retrieved August 4, 2015, from <http://www.classbase.com/countries/Chile/Grading-System>

suggest cooking and preparing your food yourself so as to avoid any potential allergic reactions.

Missing Chik-fil-A (How to Make the Most of New Foods)

You will be able to find many of your fast food favorites from the U.S. in Chile as well: Pizza Hut, Taco Bell, KFC, McDonald's, Burger King, Papa John's. However, you may find yourself missing some of the staples you have come to love during your time in Columbia: Chick-fil-A, Qdoba, Chipotle. Mexican food is not as prevalent in South America as in the U.S., but it is not impossible to find. A great place to start is Los Miserables, in Bellavista next to Doggies. This restaurant will give you a cheap Mexican fix while you search out other options. One aspect that you'll probably miss the most about food will be either the salt content or the seasonings and spices in general. Chilean food is typically more bland than the food found in the U.S. A good way to combat this is to purchase cayenne or red pepper flakes from Jumbo or other large supermarkets. *Merkén* is a particularly delicious hot Chilean spice that can be treated as a hybrid between red pepper flakes and paprika.

Brief Reviews of Delicious Restaurants

Sur Patagonico

José Victorino Lastarria 92-96, Barrio Lastarria, Santiago Centro
(+56-2) 2638-6651

A delicious restaurant that serves rich food local to Chile. It has a restaurant feel that is very catered towards tourists, and yet is absolutely delicious. When I brought my brother to the city, he still says that it is a toss up between this restaurant and Les Assassines for the best dinner. Average cost of dinner is about \$12.000+tip per person.

Les Assassines

Merced 297 B, Barrio Lastarria, Santiago Centro, Santiago
(56-2) 2638-4280

A small and delicious French restaurant that looks rather unimpressive from the outside, however the food is absolutely delicious and reasonably priced. If you want to sit upstairs, make a reservation, otherwise they will ask you the awkward, "Do you have a reservation?" question and when you reply, "No," they'll usher downstairs to the basement, which is just a funny experience. Average cost of dinner \$13.000 + tip per person.

Panko

José Victorino Lastarria 53, Barrio Lastarria, Santiago Centro, Santiago
(56-2) 2664-8280

A small, but delicious sushi restaurant located in Barrio Lastarria. It's pretty delicious and relatively cheap compared to the quality of food that you eat. However, it is such a small restaurant that you can only really go in small groups and ideally with a reservation. Average cost of dinner is about \$6.000 + tip

Uncle Fletch

Dardignac 0192, Bellavista, Santiago Centro, Santiago
(56-2) 2777-6477

A very popular burger joint located just mere blocks away from Pio Nono. I would suggest either booking a reservation or getting there early so as to get a table without waiting. It's pretty reasonably priced for burgers, and its milkshakes are phenomenal. Average cost of dinner is about \$8.000+tip.

El Huerto

Orrego Luco 054, Providencia, Santiago
(56-2)2233-2690

One of the top vegetarian restaurants in the world (according to the Daily Meal) and located right next to a Birkenstocks/Pocket Knife store. The food is delicious, and really easy for any vegetarians trying to live in Santiago. All the wait staff are very friendly, and you get service similar to that of the US. Average cost of dinner is about \$8.000 + tip.

La Junta

José Victorino Lastarria 70, Barrio Lastarria, Santiago
(56-2)2638-6864

The closest thing you'll find to an American Sports Bar in Santiago. The food is what you would expect from a sports bar (burgers and pizza mostly). La Junta is a microbrewery that features a tremendous happy hour menu as well as a fun and relaxing atmosphere. The restaurant is a great place to watch soccer games and is always showing major sporting events. La Junta has its own sushi bar as well. Average cost of dinner is about \$10.000 + tip.

Pez Toro

José Victorino Lastarria 70, Barrio Lastarria, Santiago
(56-2)664-6411

One of the best places to get brick-oven pizza in the city. Pez Toro has a wide selection of pizzas and other italian-inspired menu options mixed with traditional Chilean/Peruvian appetizers and sides. This is a great place for larger get togethers with groups of friends. Also if you order something "*para llevar*," they can typically have your pizza ready in about 10 minutes. Average cost of dinner is about \$9.000 + tip.

Quitral

José Victorino Lastarria 70, Barrio Lastarria, Santiago
(56-2)2664-0850

One of our favorite "upscale" restaurants in Chile. Quitral is a great place for classy outings with small groups of friends or dates. The menu is a nice mix of steakhouse, chilean asado, and peruvian-inspired appetizers. The price tag means you won't be

visiting too often, but Quítral is definitely worth a trip or two during your time in Santiago. Average cost of dinner is about \$20.000 + tip.

Pedidos Ya

Online

www.pedidosya.cl

So far we've covered a lot of great restaurants and eateries across the city; but if you are looking to take the lazy route to sampling cuisine in Santiago, look no further than Pedidos Ya. This website (also available as an app) allows you to put in your address, select a restaurant, choose your items from the menu, and have your meal delivered right to your door. The website offers a plethora of fast-food options whether you are looking for a taste of home (Pizza Hut, KFC), sushi, peruvian, or chilean delicacies. Customary tip for delivery is a minimum of \$2.000.

Politics and Protests

Brief Overview of the Political Evolution of Chile

Chile's history is characterized by a cyclical shift between capitalist and socialist driven policy and government.

Current Issues Facing Chileans

Classism

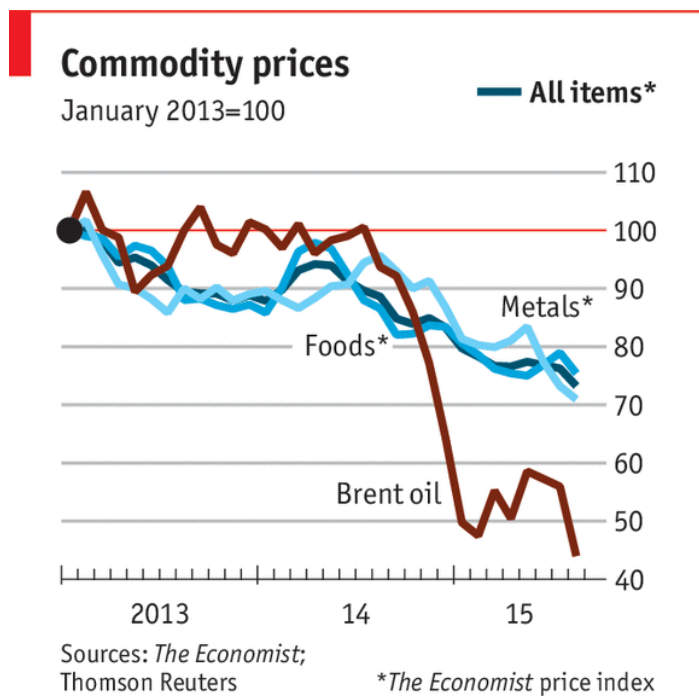
Classism has always played a significant role in the Chilean socio-political climate. However, the dictatorial reign of Pinochet that lasted nearly 20 years (ending in 1990) severely deepened existing economic inequality in the country. Now, even 25 years after the end of Pinochet's reign, the remnants of this inequality and classicist mindset are as prevalent as ever. Chile is ranked as the seventh most unequal country in the world based on income.³⁸ High-class Chileans are called "*cuicos*" and typically live comfortable lifestyles in neighborhoods like Lo Barnechea and Vitacura. They tend to be more right-leaning and conservative in their political views. Cuicos have a general distaste for Chileans of a lower social class than them and will not date or even have friends from different social or economic classes. This attitude has bred resentment among lower socioeconomic classes in Chile and the result has been a society that is very divided and extremely judgemental with regards to income and lifestyle.³⁹ A Chilean can tell everything about another Chilean's socioeconomic situation based simply on where they live, how "*mapuche*" they look, and what their last name is. This is a huge part of Chilean society, and you will quickly notice it within FEN.

³⁸ Konrad, M. (2015, March 28). Articles: Chile -- A Rising Star. Retrieved October 25, 2015, from http://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2015/03/chile__a_rising_star.html

³⁹ Cobin, J. (2008, October 23). Race and Racism in Chile. Retrieved October 25, 2015, from <http://escapeamericanow.info/race-and-racism-in-chile/>

Commodity Dependency

Between 2000 and 2011, the commodity market saw tremendous growth in prices. However, since then prices have nosedived--and the results have been evident in commodity dependent economies like Chile's. When commodities are expensive, they account for a larger share of imports and exports. The recent drop in prices has meant Chile has had to manage its copper output by draining its copper reserves (which are still some of the largest in the world). Private mining companies (which operate separately from Chile's huge nationalised CODELCO) are weathering the price drops with varying degrees of success. Diego Hernández, CEO of Antofagasta Minerals (the largest private mining company in Chile), says "We're used to working with commodity price cycles. It's part of the culture of the industry, so we know how to react. The domestic situation is much more complicated. It hasn't been as bad as this for more than 30 years."⁴⁰



Economist.com

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Failing Presidency

⁴⁰ Mander, B. (2015, October 19). Chile's gloom becomes self-fulfilling - FT.com. Retrieved October 25, 2015, from <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/d60ac2b2-7453-11e5-a129-3fcc4f641d98.html#axzz3pbperW6e>

⁴¹ DATA TEAM. (2015, August 12). A risky state. Retrieved October 25, 2015, from <http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2015/08/commodity-dependency?zid=305&ah=417bd5664dc76da5d98af4f7a640fd8a>

In July of 2015, current Chilean president Michelle Bachelet's disapproval ratings reached a record high of 70% (jumping from 68% in June). Socialist Michelle Bachelet took office for her second term in March 2014 with an approval rating of 54%, but has since been criticized for being slow on economic growth and recovery. Furthermore, Bachelet's involvement in a number of monetary and political scandals have marred her message of combating social inequality in Chile. While all political leaders in Latin America have seen approval ratings fall with the decline in commodity prices, Bachelet's remain some of the lowest. Even Chile's historic Copa America victory did not offer the failing president any respite in approval markings.⁴²

Chilean Inferiority Complex

A question you will often be asked by Chileans when they learn you are studying here is "why Chile?" Most Chileans are surprised to learn that they have one of the best education systems in Latin America and are considered to be the only "developed" country by the OECD in the region. Not only are Chileans not used to having foreigners in their country, they do not seem to understand why foreigners would want to visit their country in the first place. Many times, this feeling of insignificance can be projected on gringo visitors and may result in the "stand-offish" attitude that many Chileans display towards foreigners--as if they feel they are in constant competition with the gringos around them. Try to remember to be complimentary of the country, and remind Chileans that they live in the best economy in Latin America.⁴³

Protestas, Paros and Tomas

Student protests have been a staple of Chilean society since 1920, in reaction to the first protest movement of Latin America in Córdoba, Argentina (1918). This first movement came from the perceived inequality of the middle class to the elite, and the role of education in making access to that upper echelon feasible. Similar movements, led primarily by the middle class, rocked Chilean society in 1968, the 1980s, the 2006 "March of the Penguins," 2011 and current protests in 2015.⁴⁴ The gist of the demands remains markedly similar throughout time: more equality in quality and access to the educational system. Some argue for free education, others for additional participation of students in governing bodies of the universities. The public schools, such as Universidad de Chile, experience the most effects of the movements and it should not be surprising if the university takes action or allows a

⁴² Disapproval of Chile's President Bachelet hits record high - poll. (2015, August 3). Retrieved October 25, 2015, from <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/08/03/uk-chile-politics-idUKKCN0Q81KJ20150803>

⁴³ Margaret, T. (2011, January 30). Chile is Not a Third-World Country and other impressions. Retrieved October 25, 2015, from <https://cachandochile.wordpress.com/2011/01/30/chile-is-not-a-third-world-country-and-other-impressions/>

⁴⁴ Tünnermann, 1998.

march multiple times throughout the semester. Luckily for IBA, FEN is remarkably conservative relative to all other *facultades* at the Universidad de Chile, and is very unlikely to have prolonged periods without school (extended *Paro* or *Toma*).

Paro

This is a democratic vote to allow the school to enter *Paro* in reaction to a controversial movement, and most importantly, to not penalize students who participate in student marches and protests. Essentially, what happens is all the students vote to have or not have *paro* and if *paro* is allowed then classes may or may not be cancelled, but attendance will be optional and no grades can be given. If a school goes into extended *Paro*, unlikely at FEN, that means that the school remains in *paro* until a majority of students, voting either everyday or every week, vote to have class again. At that point, the school comes out of *paro* and classes resume as usual. Historically FEN has never been “*en paro*” for more than three consecutive days.

Toma

This is the level after *paro* which is more controversial, where students actively take a school over and refuse to allow staff or professors continue work at all at the school (aka occupation). Classes are not held and the school is actively under control of students who guard it 24/7. It is most easily noticed from the outside as the students hang banners and symbolically thrust chairs through the gated walls and hang them from the spikes at the top.



Jobs, Internships and Volunteering

Payment for Your Work

Changing your Visa

You can apply for a work visa on top of your student visa with a one time payment of fifty percent of the cost of a full work visa. It is a pain in the butt and takes a solid four months. For more information go to the Departamento de Extranjería y Migración, página web: <http://www.extranjeria.gob.cl/tipos-de-residencia-de-estudiante/#capitulo4>

Required Documents:

- Fill out the information of “*Reverso del Presente formulario*”
- Photocopy of your passport
- Photocopy of your stamped visa page in your passport (important if your visa was issued at a consulate)
- Work contract signed before a Notary by you and your employer
- Certificate from FEN stating you are a student (official)
- Photocopy of your Chilean Cédula
- Letter expressing your motives for applying for the work visa

- Bear in mind that they will change your visa over only if it is a requirement for the Chilean University.

Paid Under the Table

Sometimes companies are willing to let you work without the formalized changes to your visa. They can either pay you through a third party, or directly in cash at work. This is sometimes made easier if you have an account with BancoEstado (that you can open once you have the RUN of your Cédula). Typically, do not broadcast the fact that you're being paid under the table, but it definitely gives you an easy way to get paid.

Unpaid

However, if a paid internship is not on the table for you and you are really concerned about the lack of internship after your Junior year in college, plenty of companies would love to have people come into work for free. With that in mind, you can get lots of experience and even a potential future job offer out of the internship.

For example, working at the US Embassy gives you experience in a multitude of different industries, access to exclusive information held by the US government as well as the ability to meet and network with the most important people of many various multinational corporations. You also get to work parties at the ambassador's residence and free housing if you need it. However, you are not paid, but it was a trade off you may be willing to make.

Ways to Volunteer in Santiago

If you are looking to be involved in service during your time in Santiago, there are a number of opportunities available to you. The most common opportunities will involve tutoring or teaching English to Chileans that could not otherwise afford English instruction. www.goabroad.com and www.gooverseas.com are great websites to find current volunteering opportunities in Santiago. You can also converse with your Chilean friends of the student office at FEN about service opportunities--you will find that many of your Chilean classmates are already involved in some kind of service project or group.

If you are interested in weekend-long service trips that involve larger projects like home-building or repairs, former FEN student Matías Muñoz Hagen is very involved in the volunteering community. He can be contacted via phone at +56 9 8390 7613.

Time Constraints

The most stressful part about having an internship in Santiago is the time involved. These jobs are a lot more important, with real, multinational corporations and they typically involve long 20-25 hour weeks. That number is then increased when you factor in transportation time and costs. With that in mind, the job rapidly takes up a

large part of your Chilean life, and when added to a hard class schedule, you will likely be left with few daylight hours. However, many have found having an internship very rewarding and a great way to learn more about the country and job market. In fact, many cohort students feel as though they were drowning in free-time and look for an internship to help keep themselves busy. Choose wisely and commit to your decision, because the multinational corporations in Santiago and your actions could have possible future positive or negative ramifications on other University of SC graduates.

Potential Internship Contacts (Contact Previous USC Interns First)

United States Embassy in Santiago, Chile

Department of Foreign Commercial Service

Contact Name:

Claudia Melkonian

Email:

Claudia.Melkonian@trade.gov

IBA/USC Previous Interns: *Julia Whitehead, Elizabeth Ann Lambdin, Kelly Faria*

Before contacting Claudia with your resumé directly, we suggest talking first with Dr. Nancy Buchan or going by the official US Department of State website: <http://careers.state.gov/intern/student-internships> at this website you can also apply for other departments such as Economics/Politics but they have different, more stringent background checks, as you need to be given Top Secret clearance. If you are interested in an internship, give yourself at least six months or more for the application process. Additionally, if you intern with them and ask for housing they will place you in housing with a full-time employee of the embassy, free of charge.

HousingAnywhere.com

Student run startup devoted to helping internationals find housing.

Contact Name:

Konstantinos Papadogeorgos

Email:

hrm@housinganywhere.com

IBA/USC Previous Interns:

None, Reference from Kaia Range

A startup founded by students from the Rotterdam School of Management. It provides a housing platform where you can sublet your room and rent a room short-term. They contacted Kaia Range directly with internship openings. Likely, side jobs would be available in Santiago, whereas the internships are located in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

HSBC Chile

An international banking and holding company, which provides essential financial services.

How to Apply:

Send an email with your resumé, with your first and last name in the subject line to chile_seleccion@cl.hsbc.com

IBA/USC Previous Interns:

Lindsay Williamson, Kady Beth Watts, Ana Gibson

An important and large international banking institution. Look on their website for specific internship openings but past internship opportunities have included: Human Resources, CMB, Global Banking and Markets, Finance, Operations, IT.

First Solar

Department of Public/Government Affairs for Latin-America

Contact Name: *Rodrigo García Palma*

Email: *contact Julia, whitehjg@email.sc.edu*

IBA/USC Previous Interns: *Julia Whitehead*

One of the largest solar panel and power providers internationally with offices on all continents (excepting Antarctica), headquartered out of Tempe, Arizona.

Edenred

Marketing Coordinator

Contact Name: *Ilana Sarner*

Email: *ilana.sarner@edenred.com*

IBA/USC Previous Interns: *None, Reference from Kaia Range*

The company that invented the Ticket Restaurant meal voucher and worldwide leader in prepaid corporate services.

Optimiza Ingeniería y Desarrollo, S.A.

International Operations Analyst

Contact Names: *Roxana Uribe or Hernán Vásquez*

Emails: *ruribe@optimiza.cl, hvasquez@optimiza.cl*

IBA/USC Previous Interns: *Jake Sims*

An engineering and development company that combines continuous improvement ideology with generations of engineering and project management experience. Optimiza focuses on excellence in engineering projects for mining driven by extensive knowledge of metallurgical processes. More information at www.optimiza.cl.

AstraZeneca

Finance Process Analyst

Contact Name: *Maria Elvira Velasquez, HR Coordinator*

Email: *mariaelvira.vasquez@astrazeneca.com*

IBA/USC Previous Interns: *Evan Hanna*

AstraZeneca is a biopharmaceutical company and is the seventh largest prescription drug vendor in the world. Headquartered in London, United Kingdom.

Natural Disasters/Environment

History of Natural Disasters

Chile is a very diverse country, and consequently, subject to many different forms of natural disasters. Chile is known for the various earthquakes, tsunamis and

volcanoes erupting within the bounds of the country; it also has been subject to more infrequent mass flooding, landslides and avalanches.

Earthquakes and Tsunamis

Chile is located on a tectonic plate subduction zone, where one tectonic plate, specifically the oceanic Nazca plate, dives beneath the other, South American plate, generating tons of pent up energy that gets released through earthquakes. Areas above subduction zones are known to have the strongest earthquakes on the planet, as subduction zones are the most tectonically active areas on the planet. Strong earthquakes that burst from subduction zones are known as megathrust quakes⁴⁵.

Chile Earthquake of 1960

On May 22nd, 1960, Chile was hit by the biggest earthquake ever recorded—boasting a magnitude of 9.5. The quake hit around 7:00pm off the coast of Valdivia, Chile, and was preceded by a series of foreshocks in the days prior (one in Concepción at 7.9 magnitude). Though many buildings were leveled, the true damage was caused by the 80-foot tsunami that was generated off of the coast. The quake was so strong that Hawaii was hit 15 hours later by waves as large as 35 feet high. When the waves finally hit Japan, they were still substantial at 18 feet high.⁴⁶

Chile Earthquake of 2010

On February 27, 2010, Chile was devastated by a magnitude 8.8 earthquake that hit around 3:30am. The epicenter was located approximately 200 miles southwest of Santiago. Again, though the quake was significant, much of the damage was caused by the subsequent tsunami: the town of *Constitución* was hit by waves as large as 50 feet high and due to negligence by officials, tsunami warnings were not properly issued. Thankfully, Chile was better prepared since the quake of 1960, and though many buildings sustained widespread damage, many more were built to endure high magnitude quakes. The disaster was further complicated by the shortage of food and gasoline, which led to widespread looting in the town of *Concepción*. The government declared almost all of the damage repaired by 2014.⁴⁷

Chile Earthquake of 2014

On April 1st, 2014, Northern Chile was hit by an 8.2 magnitude earthquake near the port city of Iquique. The quake killed six people, caused widespread damage and triggered a tsunami wave approx. 7 ft. high. The last quake that happened on this section of the subduction plates was in 1877, making the section highly stressed with the build-up of about 150 years of pressure. However, the 2014 quake was smaller than anticipated by scientists and they later learned that only the central section of the faultline was affected by the quake, indicating that additional stress

⁴⁵ Choi, C. Q. (13 August 2014)

⁴⁶ Pallardy, R. (1 July 2014)

⁴⁷ Pallardy, R. and Rafferty, J. P. (16 March 2015).

was added to the sections of the fault north and south of the affected region. This additional pressure indicates that the region is likely still due for another megathrust.⁴⁸

Chile Earthquake of 2015

On September 16th, 2015, Chile was yet again enveloped in a huge megathrust earthquake of 8.3 magnitude in Illapel, Coquimbo. This earthquake caused 10 deaths in the region as well as a 15 foot high tsunami off of the coast⁴⁹. This earthquake was unique to us as we experienced it. It happened just mere days before the largest Chilean holiday: el 18 de septiembre, and because of that many of our friends were travelling the country, some up to la Serena (close to the epicenter). The shaking started slowly and then quickly built up going on for more than three minutes, much longer than the typical *temblors* felt in Santiago. We opened the front door of my apartment and followed our Chilean neighbors' cues. It was absolutely terrifying, but thankfully Chilean buildings are constructed with constant earthquakes in mind, giving it a very strong infrastructure ready to take on some of the strongest quakes in the world. Strong earthquakes, some lasting past a minute continued to shake the building throughout the night and during the next couple of weeks.

If you ever want to be terrified but informed about the current earthquake state in Chile: <http://earthquaketrack.com/p/chile/recent>.

Volcanoes

For the most part, an erupting volcano will not affect you while you are in Santiago. At the most, some ash might come to the city and air quality will be affected for the next couple of days. If you travel to the south or to the north, there are many active volcanoes and you should be aware of their status before committing to the trip. That being said, many cities are aware of the threat and have relatively sophisticated systems to help alert the town of imminent eruptions.

If you ever want to see what volcanoes are currently erupting in Chile: <http://www.volcanodiscovery.com/chile.html>.

Daily Issues

Smog

If you have a history of asthma or even mild respiratory problems, the difference in air quality is one of the first things you will notice when arriving in Santiago. In June 2015 (during our time in Santiago) a state of emergency was declared regarding air quality conditions that required more than 900 industries and 40% of Santiago's

⁴⁸ Choi, C. Q. (13 August 2014)

⁴⁹ Horvath, Scott. (16 September 2015).

travel to shut down entirely.⁵⁰ The city is situated in a bowl in the Andes Mountains and receives relatively little rainfall. Consequently, much of the air pollution generated in and around the city is trapped and forms a thick cloud that obscures the vision for more than a few miles. The smog tends to be worse during the winter months. To put it in perspective, on average the air pollution in Santiago is the equivalent of smoking five cigarettes every day, meaning Santiago has the third worst air quality of any city in the world.⁵¹ Running outside during this time is highly discouraged and occasionally physically impossible. Again, if you have any history of breathing problems, be sure to talk with your doctor and bring down any of your relevant medications.



Air Conditioning/ Central Heating Ventilation

One unfortunate aspect of Santiago, is that very few homes or apartments have either central heating or air conditioning. Luckily, the city has a pretty temperate

⁵⁰ Pandey, A. (2015, June 22). Santiago Smog: Chile Declares Environmental Emergency Over Air Pollution. Retrieved October 15, 2015, from <http://www.ibtimes.com/santiago-smog-chile-declares-environmental-emergency-over-air-pollution-1976819>

⁵¹ McIntyre, D. (2010, November 29). The 10 Cities With the World's Worst Air - DailyFinance. Retrieved March 20, 2016, from <http://www.dailyfinance.com/2010/11/29/10-cities-with-worlds-worst-air/>

climate, with this situation only becoming a real problem during the middle of winter and summer. The cold will be the main issue faced by IBA students, luckily you are not alone, and cheap, warm blankets as well as personal space heaters can easily be found in almost any supermarket. However, take the temperature seriously and purchase items that will keep you warm while you sleep and hang out around your house: you will not regret it.

Water Quality

The water tastes a bit funny in Santiago, but for the most part it is potable. If you have a weak or easily upset stomach, transition into the tap water slowly and primarily just drink bottled water. Bringing something like a Brita filter water bottle can help you transition to Chile water and its slightly higher mineral content.⁵² Around 99% of water service providers in Chile are compliant with bacteriological and disinfection norms.⁵³ In the past, the northern regions of the country have struggled with point source pollution from mining projects. Legislation in recent years has helped to curb the prevalence of these kinds of contaminants.⁵⁴

Precautions

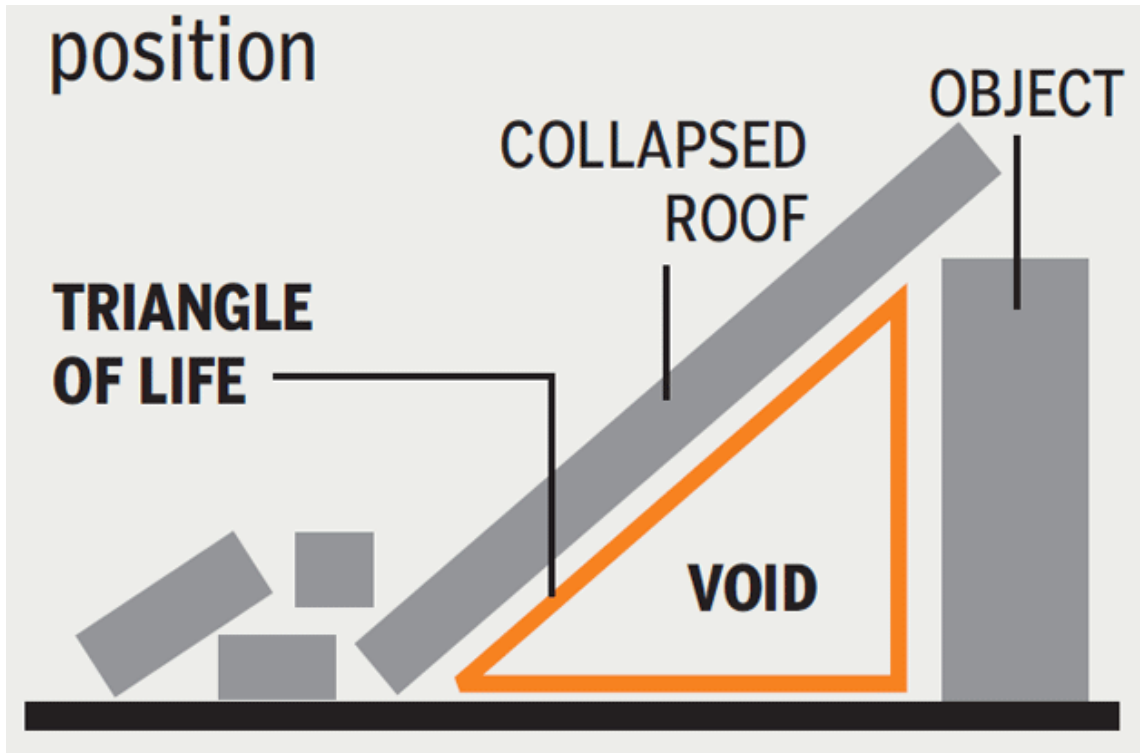
When trying to determine the drinkability of water during your travels, it is always important to consult other foreigners who have traveled to the same location. Often times locals may be accustomed to the different chemical makeup of the water and will not be aware of the adverse effects it may have for foreigners. When in doubt, buy bottled water. It will be more expensive, but paying a little extra for water is well worth not getting sick. A number of people in the cohort suffered a severe stomach bug after traveling to Mendoza, Argentina. It was not a pleasant several weeks. Always better to be safe than sorry.

With regards to smog, simply make sure you pay attention to any advisories that may be in effect during your stay in Chile. These advisories typically last no more than a couple days and suggest that residents refrain from excessive physical activity or time spent outside. Major earthquakes are infrequent and it is unlikely that you will experience a life-threatening, seismic event while in Santiago. Even so, in the event that you should find yourself caught in the midst of an earthquake, always remember the “triangle of life” (shown in the image below). By crouching near a vertical, stable object and covering your neck, you will minimize your risk of injury of falling debris or collapsing roofing.

⁵² Gobierno de Chile. (2015). Water Resources. Retrieved October 20, 2015, from <http://www.unep.org/GC/GCSS-VIII/Chile-e.pdf>

⁵³ Donoso, Guillermo and Melo, Oscar. (2006). "Water Quality Management in the Americas; Chapter 5: Water Quality Management in Chile: Use of Economic Instruments." (PDF). Springer Berlin Heidelberg. pp. 229–251. Retrieved October 20, 2015.

⁵⁴ UNEP (2006). "Water Resources-Chile" (PDF). pp. 1–5. Retrieved October 20, 2015.



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Crime and Security

Common Crime in Chile

According to the OSAC 2015 Crime and Safety Report, the crime is rated as **High**.

However, the most common crimes remain pickpocketing, telephonic scams and residential break-ins whereas violent crimes such as express kidnappings, traditional kidnappings and random shootings are almost non-existent. Unfortunately, the crime experienced in Santiago has increased in recent years with the largest increase seen in residential break-ins. Apartments with 24-hour concierges are unlikely to be burglarized, but apartment break-ins do occur, although infrequently. Pickpocketing is most frequently occurs at night and on weekends. Additionally, areas around ATMs should be considered prime locations where crime can occur. Credit card fraud has also become more of a concern, and to combat this, many facilities instead bring the credit card reader to you so that you can personally scan the card yourself.⁵⁶

⁵⁵ Earthquake Safety Tips Triangle Of Life Image Gallery on postimgs.com. (2013). Retrieved October 20, 2015, from <http://www.postimgs.com/earthquake-safety-tips-triangle-of-life>

⁵⁶ Gannon, Bill. (2015).

Daily Precautions

Be conscious of where you put your wallet in your bag or pockets. If you have a backpack, flip the zippers inside of the pockets and wear it on the front of your body (or sling it across your body) when you are in crowded or unsafe areas such as the Metro, where pickpockets are abound.

Double check the locks on your door every morning when you leave. Keep your keys well guarded and if you are in an especially creepy part of town, vary your walking route and stay in well lit areas.

Withdraw money from ATMs during the day, typically from banks or supermarkets (which also have security guards). Also, leave most of your money that you withdraw in your locked apartment and carry minimal amounts on your person. Additionally, if you pay with a credit card, scan the card yourself.

Long Term Precautions

The easiest way to ensure your long-term safety is building good habits, and making good long term decisions such as where to live. Where you live and the home in which you live should be located in a good area, with, at the minimum, a doorman and two locks, or four different locks. Ideally, get to know your neighbors or the ("*conserje*" or "*portero*") and make sure that they check in on you and make safety conscious decisions with regards to the building. This is easiest in smaller, well established communities, whereas the largest buildings sometimes have too many inhabitants to properly keep track of. The habits to build can be found in daily precautions.

Health Care in Chile

By Featured IBA Student: Evan Hanna



Good Hospitals to Go To

Clínica Alemana

Av Vitacura 5951, Santiago, Región Metropolitana

<http://portal.alemana.cl/wps/wcm/connect/internet/home>

Clinica Alemana will be the premier place to go for healthcare. Sadly, they do not accept the CISI Travel Insurance, but frankly I had a difficult time in finding a decent hospital/clinic that did. Also, one thing to keep in mind, *Clínica* means that it is a private institution, while a Hospital is a state-run institution. My advice: stick with the *Clínicas*.

The first step in receiving care is to go onto the website provided above. The site has an English option (Click on the British flag) and they also have an International Patient Service. Take a look through it. Depending on what insurance you have in the US, you may be able to use it / be able to get reimbursed for the expenses that you will incur. I, for example, have Blue Cross/Blue Shield in the states and for many members, they offer what is called the Blue Card for international travel insurance. Although you will have to pay for your care upfront, it can all be reimbursed by your insurance company, so keep those receipts.

The next step after analyzing your insurance options is to contact the international patient service office via email and give them all your information like full name, RUT, Insurance, what is wrong with you, etc. They should contact you back within 24 hours asking for times and or just flat out giving you an appointment. Once this is done, and you have your appointment, take an Uber or Taxi out to Vitacura. Everyone and their brother knows *Clínica Alemana*, it is not like you are asking the drivers to take you to some mythical place that they have never heard of before, *Clínica Alemana* is like the holy grail of healthcare in Chile. The closest metro station is Manquehue (Line 1, Las Condes), but it will be about a 30-45 minute walk from there, or a 5-10 minute taxi ride.

On the second floor of the taller building of the clinic (there are wings of the clinic on both sides of the street), there is the International Patient Service office. Go in, go straight up to one of the people working (generally they speak English) and just tell them that you already have an appointment and that you want to check in. They will proceed to look you up, hand you a pre-made folder with all of your relevant information and then they will send you off to whichever floor/wing your medical specialist may be.

Once you arrive at the floor/wing that you are told to go to, you must go to the check-in/cashier station, give them your folder, and they will check you in, and give the bill for the service back to you within the folder. They will then proceed to show you the direction to the cashier, and the cashier will take the folder and ask you how you would like to pay. I always chose card (all major card companies are accepted). Once you pay, you will be given a receipt, and if I did not make this clear before, I will reiterate, KEEP THE RECEIPT. It is not cheap and you can be reimbursed. Plus you have a nice new handy-dandy folder to keep it in so it should not get lost.

Next you wait, which really does not take long. In all my experiences I have never waited longer than 15 minutes more than my actual appointment time. Be patient if there is a delay though, you cannot expect that every single patient being seen will be a 15 minute appointment as they are blocked out to be. You more than likely will be hard pressed to explain your specific condition in Spanish, however the majority of the doctors speak English and the *Clínica Alemana* does a good job in coordinating you with those that speak it the best.

Also, you will get an international nurse if you become a “frequent-flyer” at the clinic. For any further appointments, doubts, questions, etc., contact the nurse. You can also make your own appointments online beforehand on the RESERVA DE HORAS section of the site and then email the international patient service office and/or your international nurse to let them know that you will be coming in. They ask that you show up at least 15 minutes prior to every appointment so as to check in with the office. Overall, I have nothing but great things to say about this place, it is definitely a high caliber health care provider and very comparable to the services we receive in the US.

Clinica Santa Maria

Sta Maria 500, Santiago, Providencia, Region Metropolitana
www.clinicasantamaria.cl/

Another good option, and more or less comparable to *Clínica Alemana*, is *Clínica Santa Maria*. Although Santa Maria is closer (probably) to where you may be staying (Metro Salvador, Line 1, Providencia), I only went once because they do not have the English speaking doctors nor the International Patient Service/office offered at Alemana. Also, insurance may be a little shotty at this place, I just paid in cash when I went and I did not keep my receipt (not smart, always keep the receipt).

Otherwise, it more or less functions the same as Clinica Alemana; check in, pay, wait, see the doctor. The doctor probably will not speak English so unless you are feeling like your Chilean Spanish is up to par, then bite the bullet and go to *Clínica Alemana*. I did have a good experience with my doctor though. I went to get my back checked out and he diagnosed me with a hernia (in Spanish). The doctor was a very nice man. So that I am clear, there is nothing necessarily wrong with Clinica Santa Maria (it is cheaper), I just much rather prefer the security and the piece of mind that Clinica Alemana provided for me.

DISCLAIMER: If you are truly in an emergency health situation, go to the nearest emergency room. Your health comes first before the cost of it. Albeit, pray that there is a clinic in closer proximity to where you may be.

Pharmacies

I feel like these places have become my second home, not only because I go like once a week, but also because they are EVERYWHERE. You have a wide range of choices. Lucky for you, I worked for a pharmaceutical company here in Chile, so I can give you a little insight into which ones are the better ones to go to and which ones to stay away from because they are probably selling counterfeit drugs.

The big pharmacy chains that are always safe (safe in that the drugs are not counterfeit) and secure and have a wide arrange of products outside of just

pharmaceuticals in them are Cruz Verde, Salcobrand, and Farmacias Ahumada. These places will also tend to be the more expensive options but +/- \$5 is seriously negligible when it comes to the security in that you are getting the proper treatment.

Other smaller chain pharmacies are places that will sell generic products or “equivalentes” which are not exactly generic products, but have the active ingredient that is found in the drug that you may be looking for. The smaller chains include Farmacias del Dr. Simi, Farmacias del Dr. Ahorro, and Farmacias Manriquez. They will be a cheaper option, and I have personally used Manriquez because it is close to my apartment and I have always had a good experience.

My advice to you is that you stick to these six pharmacy chains, as the rest of the places will get pretty seedy. I cannot tell you off the top of my head a place I know for sure that sells counterfeit drugs, but I think you can usually tell whether a place is a bit sketchy or not. If it does not feel right, go to one of the aforementioned places.

Another note about pharmacies is that the lines are probably going to be the bane of your existence. You will need to take a number once you enter, regardless of whether you are buying a new razor, or actually picking up a prescription. Also, the people working behind the counter, like most Chileans, are never in a rush to get to the next customer. There is no quick, in and out visit to the pharmacy. Unless it is early in the morning, expect to wait at least 10-20 minutes to be called upon.

The minimarket, all-in-one pharmacies that we are spoiled with in the US (i.e. CVS, Walgreens, etc.) do not exist. While you can generally buy skin care products, toothpaste, deodorant, toiletries, etc., you will not be able to buy a lot of things you have become accustomed to seeing at home. Edible items, drinks, cheap halloween costumes, week old holiday candy, red solo cups, endearing Hallmark cards, school supplies, etc. are all not going to be there.

My final note on the pharmacies is in regards to the prescriptions. Nobody told me this the first time but unless the doctor specifies otherwise, all prescriptions are valid for 5-6 months from the date they are signed by the doctor. This means that when you go to the pharmacy to fill a prescription, they will give you back the prescription so that you may keep it. I implore you to do so. I threw out my back medication because I thought I was going to get in trouble for using it twice (I was really confused when they gave me back the sheet of paper) and I literally think it's the biggest mistake I have made in Chile, which I know, sounds dramatic, but that is just how I roll. The prescriptions will generally not be too expensive either, so no need to sweat, and like most places, they accept all forms of payment.

Insurance

When you sign up for study abroad, the Study Abroad Office will automatically enroll you in CISI insurance--which is the global insurance provider for all USC study

abroad programs. It is important to print and bring your insurance card (will be e-mailed to you) with you to Santiago as well as copies of the insurance letter and claim forms.

If you have a minor incident, please take one of the following steps:

1. On your insurance card is a telephone number with a note saying “For 24/7 emergency assistance call AXA Assistance at 312-935-1703 (can call collect from outside the US)”. Please direct your medical provider or hospital to call this number. CISI will then be able to provide a “guarantee of payment” document to the provider, and payment will then come directly from CISI to the local provider/hospital

Or

2. Pay for the treatment, keep all receipts, and submit a claim form to CISI for reimbursement of your expenses. If the treatment is minor, quick, and cheap, you may find this easier.

If you have a major health issue or emergency, please take one of the following steps:

1. If your situation is urgent and you do not have time to contact CISI in advance, go directly to the nearest emergency medical facility for treatment. When checking-in, tell the hospital that you have an insurance company that will pay the bill for you. On your insurance card is a telephone number with a note saying “For 24/7 emergency assistance call AXA Assistance at 312-935-1703 (can call collect from outside the US)”. Please direct your medical provider or hospital to call this number. CISI will then be able to provide a “guarantee of payment” document to the provider, and payment will then come directly from CISI to the local provider/hospital.

Or

2. If your situation is not urgent but you need to arrange treatment, please contact either CISI or USC Study Abroad Office in advance. We can then open a case file for you with CISI, and they can assist in finding a provider who is already set up for direct billing (meaning that CISI will pay the hospital directly, no bill to student).

If you prefer, you can make all payment to the hospital/provider and then submit receipts to CISI for reimbursement.

Gringo

Treatment as a Foreigner

Wall flowers, welcome to paradise. The second you step outside the Santiago International Airport the starring will begin. While Chile has been open to FDI and tourism for over 25 years, having foreigners walking down their streets is not something that Chileans are used to. As a gringo in Chile, you will get a lot of attention, but not always the good kind. Homeless Chileans looking for *moneda* from passerby on the streets often target foreigners because they assume we have extra money to spare. Additionally, many Chileans will feel the need to be “stand-offish” or “one up” you simply because you are from the United States. If you are a girl, you can expect to get extra attention from the Chilean men. If you are a guy, you can expect most Chilean girls to be extremely shy and scared to death to speak with you.

The most important thing you can remember as a gringo in Chile is to be confident in your identity and be respectful of the identities of those around you. There is no need to apologize for your origins or your heritage--though many Chileans may attempt to make you feel that it is necessary for you to do so. Explain the perspectives and perceptions of the U.S. and listen carefully to the counterpoints made by your Chilean friends. Agreement isn't necessary, but mutual understanding is essential.

All About Sex

Abortion is Legal

Abortion was illegal in Chile from 1874 until March 2016. In 1931, the Código Sanitario was put into place decriminalizing abortion for both the medical practitioner and the woman given the abortion in cases when the abortion was necessary to save the woman's life, this was called “Therapeutic Abortion.” According to this law, the woman would need the approval and signatures of two different doctors to proceed with the procedure. However, this limited right was taken away in 1989 by Pinochet as one of his last acts in office.

Until 2015, all types of abortion were illegal in Chile including when the pregnancy is life-threatening to the mother or in cases of rape. This prohibition caused Chile to have a higher maternal mortality rate than most of its neighbors. Regardless of the prohibition, about 35 percent of all pregnancies were terminated by abortion each year in Chile, indicating a thriving black market, without the same regulations that would be in place in hospitals. In fact, unsafe abortion accounted for an estimated 25 percent of maternal mortality. Breaking this law and having or giving an abortion could have put you into jail for up to five years⁵⁷.

⁵⁷ (31 March 2009) Abortion.

Luckily, President Bachelet proposed some amendments to the current law that would allow abortion to be carried out up to the twelfth week of pregnancy in cases when the mother's life is at risk, if the fetus is so badly deformed it would not survive childbirth or in cases of rape. She faced strong opposition from the Catholic Church, from conservatives in Congress and from some within her own party, led by the Socialist Party.⁵⁸ Nonetheless, the bill was passed 66 to 44 in the Chilean Congress and abortion is now permissible under the aforementioned circumstances.

59

Birth Control



60

Emergency Contraceptive Pills (aka the “Morning After Pill”)

As of September 2015, these are considered legal in Chile. Previously, the pill itself was considered an abortifacient and anyone caught buying or selling it would be put into jail. This is no longer the case. The morning after pill can now be purchased from Chilean pharmacies without a prescription for around 16,050 CLP.⁶¹ However, be aware that it is entirely illegal in many Latin American countries, so if you pack some, keep that fact to yourself. Additionally, normal birth control pills that can be bought at pharmacies can be used to substitute for an EC Pill. However, consult your doctor if worried about potential side effects and be entirely sure that you are using the proper medications (for more information, consult Appendix 1).

⁵⁸ (31 January 2015). Chile's President Bachelet proposes end to total abortion ban.

⁵⁹ Chile aprueba el aborto si hay inviabilidad del feto, riesgo vital para la madre o violaci. (2016, March 17). Retrieved March 21, 2016, from <http://www.elmundo.es/sociedad/2016/03/17/56eaf796ca47414a3c8b45f8.html>

⁶⁰ Courtesy of Parks and Rec.

⁶¹ Fernandez, O. (2015, September 22). Farmacias inician venta de p. Retrieved March 21, 2016, from <http://www.latercera.com/noticia/nacional/2015/09/680-648337-9-farmacias-inician-venta-de-pildora-del-dia-despues-tras-decreto-del-isp.shtml>

Condoms

In Spanish they are called *preservativos* or *condones* and are found in many pharmacies. However these options may be limited and if you have a special preference, bring your favorite condoms down as well. Well-known brands like Trojan are more difficult to find, and are not available in Magnum or ENZ varieties. However, Chileans do have the condoms but have made the process as awkward as possible, leaving many condom packages locked in special containers that you have to ask to open or behind the counter, making you speak specifically and directly to the cashier. With eye contact.

The Pill

Stock up before you come down. If you call your insurance company, or go to a pharmacy and have them call your insurance company, they will be able to override the time period constraint and freeze on your account. However, this might have to be done over a couple days so give yourself about a week to get the logistics figured out. Pharmacies do have birth control, but they may not have your exact brand. Talk with your gynecologist and figure out a couple of potential brands that you could also consider taking in the case that your brand is not available.

Don't Have Sex

I know this sounds like the most obvious and overdrilled form of birth control out there, but if you are not willing to go through with any of the other options listed above, this is your best solution.⁶²

Sexually Transmitted Infections in Chile

These levels are relatively low, likely due to the increasing development within the country. However, STI data is notoriously scarce for most of Latin America and the Caribbean.⁶³ HPV is the most common STI in Chile, followed by syphilis, chlamydia, and gonorrhea. The most commonly affected demographic is young adults ages 20 to 29.⁶⁴ It is always best to err on the side of safety. Always use protection or simply abstain from sexual activity altogether. In the event that you do suspect you have contracted an STI, make a hospital appointment as soon as possible (see “Health Care in Chile” section). STI treatment in Chile is relatively cheap compared to the United States.

⁶² <http://undertheyewtree.com/safer-travel-contraceptives-latin-america/>

⁶³ SciELO Salud Publica. (2008). Retrieved October 20, 2015, from http://www.scielosp.org/scielo.php?pid=s1020-49891999001000013&script=sci_arttext

⁶⁴ Calvo, A. (2013, July 22). Aumentan infecciones de transmisión sexual - Ginecología y obstetricia. Retrieved October 20, 2015, from <http://redsalud.uc.cl/ucchristus/ginecologia-y-obstetricia/destacados/infecciones-trasmision-sexual-mayo-2013.act>

Just for Girls

Special Treatment

Catcalling

One of the first things you may notice when in Chile is the readily available compliments as an obviously international woman. Compliments that range from being called *linda* to kissy noises made from a car to attracting unwavering stares on the metro to butt grabs in clubs. Before you start to panic, remember that it is a different culture and different cultural norms prevail. I have noticed that only very rarely does the presence of this aggressively forward culture actually affect my personal being. Physically, I am rarely ever threatened by the compliments. However, mentally you start to feel objectified everywhere you go, where your body is more important than your brain. It is important to remember that it is just a part of the culture, and the perpetrators of this unwanted attention are strangers. Among male friends that you make in Chile, the same norms do not apply and they hold you up to what your personality and mind can bring to the table as well.

Free Gifts

Not often, but frequently enough to matter, you as a *gringa* will be presented with free gifts. These might range from discounts at street vendors to shells off of a boat. So long as you do not feel threatened by the situation, it is good manners to thank them and accept the gifts.

Help

If you are ever lost and need help, most people want to help you, taking time out of their day to lead you in the correct direction. If you are in a relatively sketchy area, I suggest seeking out the nearest Carabinero. My experience as a non-rioting, US female with the Chilean police force has been overwhelmingly positive, with them taking time out of their day to advise me to leave soon-to-be dangerous areas and send me towards the best parts of town.

Creepers

Regardless of how much you might blend outwardly, you probably still stick out quite a bit in public and this can attract unwanted attention. For example, I dressed nicely one day to head towards some museums and a man on the Metro approached and followed me for the next thirty minutes in an attempt to transform my day into a date with him. The best way to get rid of unwanted attention is to be straightforward and say that you do not appreciate the attention and you have other activities planned. When in doubt, they will back down and give you space if you say you are meeting your *pololo* (boyfriend).

Tampons are Expensive

This might sound like the most ridiculous advice to receive, but we, the females, were shocked when we got down to Chile at the prices and limited availability of Period Products. Since then, we have demanded our visitors to bring down the cheap US products or have brought some back ourselves. I strongly suggest bringing what you need when you first come down, which will give you space in your suitcase at the end of the year for souvenirs and give you peace of mind during that time of the month.

Hair Products

This might be the second most ridiculous advice to receive, but do not bring down your favorite shampoo and conditioner from home. The water content and quality is different in Chile and the products made for the USA water are not as effective here. However, you can get many of the same products and brands especially at Salcobrand pharmacies and at large supermarkets such as Jumbo, specially tailored to Chilean water content. Do not waste any valuable suitcase space on your hair products.

Repatriation

Repatriation and reentry of study abroad students to their home country has been described as the most difficult part of the cultural adjustment process, notably more difficult than the move to the foreign country. Initial research studies have been conducted to a limited extent on several populations. Primary populations studied have been missionaries, business and corporate expatriates, military personnel, exchange students and international volunteers. For the purpose of this paper, emphasis will be placed on the studies aimed towards exchange students and international volunteers such as the Peace Corps, whose integration into the culture and length of stay more mimics the typical study of students in the International Business of the Americas Cohort. Reentry is described as the process of readjusting upon returning home after an extended time abroad.

Past research primarily focuses on the factors that influence an easy or difficult reentry experience, and focus on the behavioral and psychological reactions of those participants. Additional influence is typically placed on relationships with friends and family, self-identity and cultural dissonance. The reentry experience is should be segmented into five categories that target and help to understand the reentry process: the initial departure, leave-taking and departure, the honeymoon, reverse culture shock and readjustment. The central focus of this paper will be the factors leading up to reverse culture shock and the experiences that help to navigate and move onto readjustment.

The initial departure and time overseas is a key factor in the reentry process, as much of it directly affects the reentry process. Werkman's (1980) study suggests that the time abroad pulls the students from the issues relevant back home and instead favors

specialization into competencies that aid in living abroad. Examples of that switch in worldview would be a change in importance of the local government's issues to an ability to navigate the transportation system, and to comment on the museums, art and culture of the foreign nation. At this point in the process, much of the returnee's time is spent on forming new friendships, embracing new experiences and immersing his or herself in the new culture⁶⁵.

According to Storti (2003), the leave-taking and departure stage of the process will set the stage for how difficult the reintegration process feels. This period emotionally is the first time the returnee begins to process and reach closure in that foreign nation. It has consistently been described as "bittersweet": a time when the returnee is looking forward to returning home but sad to leave overseas life⁶⁶. The importance of this period is shown by the consistent difficulty among returnees whose reentry process was unexpected or involuntary, leaving them with feelings of a lack of control and little processing time.

The next phase of the reentry process is the honeymoon phase. This typically lasts for the first two weeks to a month of returning to home. It is often a time when expectations meet reality as the returnee's experience is the "undisputed center of attention" and the returnee has few demands, responsibilities or expectations imposed on him or her. In this phase, friends and family consider any changes entirely natural, and no pressure is put on the returnee in terms of assimilation.

However, much of this is flipped once the next period of reverse culture shock begins. At this point, many friends and family begin to expect the returnee to be adjusted and re-engaged in life at home, whereas the returnee's perspective shifts and the abroad experience takes on a rose colored hue, as the imperfections of his or her home society emerge. At this point, Storti asserts that the returnee is a "cultural hybrid" that views and responds to stimuli with two different realities, partaking of each but a member of neither. At this point, many of the feelings of isolation, exhaustion, confusion and being overwhelmed overtake the returnee's perspective. This stage can last anywhere from three to eighteen months. In one study, the levels of loneliness/isolations/disconnection/depression peaked during the first six months of returning and even though they do drop significantly, the negative emotions stay high for the second six months before dropping again after a year⁶⁷.

The severity of the reintegration process varies from individual; many studies have focused on the factors that influence that severity as a study on reentry. Storti initiated much of the study with a focus on voluntary reentry, age and past experience,

⁶⁵ Werkman (1980)

⁶⁶ Storti, C. (2003)

⁶⁷ Busustow, N. J. (December 2005).

length of stay and degree of immersion, the reentry environment and the degree of difference between the home and overseas culture. His study suggests that involuntary or unexpected reentry, younger age (specified as younger than 30 years old) and lack of previous experience, a longer, more immersed length of stay, an unsupportive or unfamiliar home, and a high degree of difference between cultures all contribute to a difficult reentry process⁶⁸. Bosustow (2005) builds on this research and came to the conclusion that experiencing a crisis whilst abroad and a lack of support returning are also large factors in determining the success of reentry⁶⁹. Consistently, a difficult repatriation stems from a dissonance of expectations versus reality.

This difference of expectations has been attributed to the returnee not building or creating realistic expectations of their return from abroad. Gaw (2000) asserts that students were not able to estimate the degree of change that happened to them due to abroad experiences, nor were able to conceptualize the changes that occurred back home while they were gone⁷⁰. The understanding of what constitutes “home” may have changed within the returnee, as well as within his or her friends or family, changing an expected “wonderful” experience to a disappointment⁷¹. This seemingly obvious sentiment happens regularly among returnees because he or she takes no time to mentally prepare for the hurdles and difficulties that he or she will endure upon returning. That lack of preparation, when compared to the extensive preparation prior to the departure, is attributed to why the reentry process is more difficult than the initial immersion in the foreign culture⁷².

These changes to person were not surface level, but instead affected the returnee with his or her perception of identity, increased the psychological or emotional distress and through the emergence of interpersonal or relational problems. The confluence of these three overarching categories explains the distress, depression, isolation, and sadness commonly associated with reentry as the sheer amount to process is considered overwhelming⁷³.

Identity confusion stems from the merging of one’s two identities: that of the home culture and that of the foreign nation. Wilson (1993) asserted that the chief difficulty of reentry stemmed from coping with personal change and having to decide which identity to assume⁷⁴. Kittredge similarly noted that the returnees dealt with an identity change that preventing them from identifying with the American mainstream and

⁶⁸ Storti, C. (2003).

⁶⁹ Busustow, N.J. (December 2005).

⁷⁰ Gaw, K.F. (2000).

⁷¹ Storti, C. (2003).

⁷² Hartzell, N. (1991).

⁷³ Steen, S.L. (August 2007).

⁷⁴ Wilson (1993).

instead felt more in line with smaller, niche groups⁷⁵. Benet-Martínez's research further indicates that individuals that experience high cultural conflict, due to inherent differences or conflicts in the bi-cultural integration, can feel as though they lack a cultural base, meaning that they do not belong to a specific culture⁷⁶. These challenges were prevalent among younger returnees, typical of high school or college aged individuals, as these students were most likely in a state of identity change before, during and after an overseas experience⁷⁷. Hence, those younger returnees felt a stronger disconnect and reentry stress.

This inability to identify with a monoculture is even more pronounced in individuals who grew up in multiple cultures, lacking a monoculture. Meaning, that a returnee that grew up in multiple cultures that returns to a singular culture to live for an extended period of time would take a much longer time to feel as though he or she fit in. Instead of identifying with a singular culture, evidence suggests that he or she identifies instead with others that have the same background⁷⁸. That lack of group identity likely contributed to the strong feelings of isolation and depression among returnees.

The changing cultural lens and absence of group identity of the returnee meant not just a change in relationships, but also in his or her worldview. Wielkiewicz and Turkowski (2010) found that students who studied abroad felt much more skeptical towards their home culture than those who had not⁷⁹. Similarly, Walling et al. (2006) went more in-depth, reporting negative reactions towards U.S. international influence (politics), materialism, hospitality, pace of life, sexuality and spirituality in American culture⁸⁰. Further research indicates that a longer study abroad experience is directly related to a significantly more skeptical view of American culture, though it is possible that students choosing longer sojourns are predisposed to skepticism⁸¹. These opinions were accompanied by guilt, criticism and desire to de-identify with the home culture.

The emotional and psychological difficulties remain some of the more conspicuous reactions to the reintegration process and vary in severity person to person. These difficulties are relatively common, as Gaw (2000) reports: with 30% of his 66 American student sample size reporting loneliness and isolation as a significant or severe problem upon reentry⁸². Butcher (2002) followed up this survey and discovered that some of these feelings came from the returnee grieving the loss of their friends and experiences

⁷⁵ Kittredge (1988)

⁷⁶ Benet-Martínez

⁷⁷ Gullahorn and Gullahorn (1963).

⁷⁸ Altweck, L. & Marshall, T.C. (2015).

⁷⁹ Wielkiewicz, R.M. & Turkowski, L.W.. (2010)

⁸⁰ Walling et al. (2006).

⁸¹ Wieklewicz, R.M. & Turkowski, L.W. (2010).

⁸² Gaw, K.F. (2000).

from abroad⁸³. This grief, partly due to the loss of relationships formed abroad, possibly contributes to the added strain on the relationships back in the home country.

Further issues associated with a return from the sojourn include increased alcohol consumption. Wiekiewicz and Turkowski (2010) found a large correlation between studying abroad and increased alcohol consumption, particularly among males. Possible explanations for this tendency are the lower drinking age (e.g. 18 years) worldwide and the use of alcohol as a means to form group cohesiveness. Moreover, many of the students who choose to study abroad are older and above the legal drinking age, and thus more likely to honestly report their drinking habits⁸⁴. This issue could be correlated to emotional difficulties and/or indicate social problems.

Social problems have primarily been reported in familial relationships and with friends. Butcher (2002) reported that problems with the family were normal and due to returnees feeling unable to meet the expectations of their parents and to subscribe to familial conventions. The time apart reportedly improved some familial ties: allowing the returnee to better appreciate his or her parents⁸⁵. Many returnees reported that the relationships most strained by the experience abroad were not with parents, but instead with friends.

Difficulties with friendships were particularly pronounced among returnees, likely due to the ability to affect a direct comparison to the friends made in the abroad experience. Friends seemed uninterested in the returnee's experience abroad, likely due to the inability to relate to the experience, which directly contributes to the emotional feelings of distress and isolation⁸⁶. That disinterest in listening to the stories was cited by Cushner and Brislin (1997) as well as Allison et al. (2011) as a primary motive for feelings of disappointment and frustration⁸⁷. The returnee also felt communication difficulties in that the experience was difficult to share or communicate in a meaningful way⁸⁸. Werkman (1980) suggested that the barrier came from the fact that the experience was primarily nonverbal and that the difficulty of translating a primarily sensory experience into words made comfortable communication impossible⁸⁹.

These difficulties were, according to Wang (1997), even more pronounced within romantic relationships. Wang states, "research shows that family relationships are often strengthened by the separation and return, friendships less frequently survive the reentry

⁸³ Butcher, A. (2002).

⁸⁴ Wiekiewicz, R.M. & Turkowski, L.W. (2010).

⁸⁵ Butcher, A. (2002).

⁸⁶ Allison et al., (2011).

⁸⁷ Cushner, K. & Brislin, R. (Eds.) (1997)

⁸⁸ Allison et al., (2011)

⁸⁹ Werkman, (1980).

and romances almost never”⁹⁰. This may be less poignant than initially suggested as the research methods used to attain this conclusion were never specified, and much of its assertions have yet to be confirmed. Wielklewicz and Turkowski attempted to identify if romance was directly affected by the abroad experience and found that of the 42.3% (n=283) of their total sample that reported having a significant other when they went abroad, 65.2% (n=185) of that sample remained with their significant other after the abroad experience. However, of the 34.8% (n=38) that broke up with their significant other upon returning to domestic soil, 60.5% (n=23) indicated that the abroad experience made somewhat of a contribution, ranging to the sole reason, for the break up. Potential explanations for why this has changed since 1997 are the increase ease and use of technology as a means of communication⁹¹. Therefore, Wang’s (1997) initial assessment is overstated, though later research indicates the sojourn overseas can become a key-contributing factor for the end of a relationship.

It is important to note that many of these communication and social issues were not consistently reported in every study, though skepticism toward American culture and changes in perspective consistently were. Therefore, they should be acknowledged as more of a trend or tendency than a rule⁹². In fact, very few studies focused on the positive or lack of negative responses to the reentry experience.

The positive impacts of the study abroad experience have been recorded, to a limited extent, in a small number of studies. Brown and Graham (2009) noted that the study abroad experience was viewed as a needed break from routine and transfer into a new role, where the returnee took on cultural sensitivity, independence, confidence and assertiveness as a result of the overseas experience⁹³. Personal growth remained the strongest positive felt, followed by an appreciation for the home culture⁹⁴. Nash (1976) found that returnees demonstrated high levels of autonomy and “expansion and differentiation of self”⁹⁵. From these limited studies, it is evident that the abroad experience comes with many strong outcomes, both positive and negative, though many of the negative experiences are primarily temporary.

Time was the primary means to move through the reverse culture shock phase. Stitsworth (1989) found that the long-term personality changes occurred after a certain amount of “post-exchange processing time during which the exchange participants assimilate the experiences into their personalities”⁹⁶. This supports the idea that time is

⁹⁰ Wang, M.M. (1997) p. 121

⁹¹ Wieklewicz, R.M. & Turkowski, L.W. (2010).

⁹² Kartoshkina, Y. (2014).

⁹³ Brown, L. & Graham, I. (2009).

⁹⁴ Walling, et. al. (2006)

⁹⁵ Nash, D. (1976).

⁹⁶ Stitsworth, (1989). Pg. 223

the preferred method of recovery. However, the negative association with health services such as counseling further complicates the processing needed for the reverse culture shock phase. Gaw (2000) found a strong correlation among those participants enduring the most difficult reverse culture shock, also refusing to attend or allow clinics or counseling services (with regards to alcohol, drug addiction, shyness, roommates, sexual functioning or dating problems) to help them through the process⁹⁷. This could be due to the returnees' inability to express their thoughts or feeling appropriately⁹⁸ and instead choose to internalize the experience, in other words, bottle it up⁹⁹. Due to these tendencies, this part of the process remains the most difficult and painful phase.

The need for a formalized processing has become more and more apparent in recent studies. Mehta (2011) identified specific means for counseling reentry stress such as post immersion reflection, reading journal entries, debriefing with the immersion group of returnees and presenting the experience to local communities¹⁰⁰. World Learning (2008) suggests sojourners write letters to themselves before departing initially about their expectations and fears of both entry and reentry to be read once engaging in those two separate periods, to help facilitate and initiate the processing of the experience¹⁰¹. Kostohryz et al. (2014) suggests that a healthy way to engage the sensory events overseas, that cannot easily be described, is through experiential interventions and expressive arts, ideally used in a counseling process.

The University of South Carolina offers counseling services to its students in the Close/Hipp building on the fifth floor. Appointments can be made by phone call at 803-777-5223, though the first session or "initial consult" will be simply to give the counselor an idea of who the student is and what services might be needed. Currently enrolled USC students who have paid the student health fee are eligible to receive most services for counseling at no additional charge; this gives those students 10 free counseling sessions per academic year. All visits are entirely confidential and the records are kept completely separate from all other university records¹⁰². Ideally, this is a resource that any IBA cohort student struggling with the transition will take advantage of, and can be referred to by their study abroad companions.

The final stage of reentry is referred to as "readjustment" and is characterized by the integration of the two worlds into a balanced view of both the host country and home. This transition is facilitated by routines becoming established, which according to Storti, decreases the amount of energy needed to get through the day. At this point, the returnee

⁹⁷ Gaw, K.F. (2000).

⁹⁸ La Brack, B. (1993).

⁹⁹ Butcher, A. (2002)

¹⁰⁰ Mehta, S. (2011).

¹⁰¹ World Learning (2008).

¹⁰² Counseling & Psychiatry, (2016).

is considered entirely assimilated and emotionally stable with regards to his or her abroad experience.

The key takeaways from this research are that every returnee's reentry experience will be different and dependent on a number of moving variables, same as the abroad experience itself. Many emotional changes such as depression, isolation, or anxiety are relatively standard among returnees; with variances in severity and length of time those emotions are present (typically ranging between three and eighteen months). This stress can be seen in identity issues, emotional and psychological problems and strained interpersonal relations. This process is emotionally damaging to the point that counseling and services related to counseling, such as group meetings, journaling and artistic expressions of the experience are highly recommended to all sojourners and returnees. This process can be the most severely emotional part of the exchange process, and should be treated with as much, if not more, preparation as any other phase.

Julia Whitehead

Re-Entry to South Carolina

You have not been in the U.S. college environment for over a year--and man are you about to be awkward. It will probably start when you are introduced to someone and you start to to kiss them on the cheek, then realize this is not customary behavior in the U.S., and leave your face hovering uncomfortably close to theirs instead. Or maybe a friend will make a suggestion to which you will respond, "Ya po!"--which will solicit judgemental and confused stares. At least you only have a semester left right?

Why this process is so hard to go through is because in the past year you have been able to define yourself in a new context, able to change and grow in a new culture, presented by and conquering the challenges inherent in that situation. When you get back to school, you will still be that new person, but you will again become the person that you were when you left. Your closest friends will understand your predicament, and want to learn who you have become and grown into. Your casual acquaintances will imagine you yet again as the person you were before you left. This dichotomy is both extremely confusing and difficult, as you have to yet again define yourself at South Carolina, combining who you were with who you have become. However, understand that it does get easier and you are very much never alone.

Truth be told, re-entry is not the worst thing in the world. Just like your time in Chile: everyone's re-entry experience will be different. Don't feel weird because no one misses Chile as much as you do. And don't feel weird because no one misses Chile less than you do. It is all normal, and it is all going to be okay. Even before you

return to USC, you may start to notice that a few things have changed since you've been in the U.S. While your closest friends will be eager to catch-up with you upon your return, you will likely find that many casual acquaintances have forgotten you exist; couple this with the fact that you only have a semester left of college, and it makes for an interesting social situation in which to begin your final months of study. It is essential to remain optimistic until your return to campus. While it is true that some old friendships may not be rekindled the way you would like, it will be balanced by the excitement others will greet you with. You are awesome, people like you, and you have been gone a long time--that counts for something and it will show on the faces of the friends you run into in your classes and on campus every day.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Plan B Birth Control Substitutes (entire list)¹⁰³

Brand	First Dose	Second Dose	Ethinyl Estradiol per Dose (mg)	Levonorgestrel per Dose (mg)
Altavera	4 peach pills	4 peach pills	120	0.60
Amethia	4 white pills	4 white pills	120	0.60
Amethia Lo	5 white pills	5 white pills	100	0.50
Amethyst	6 white pills	6 white pills	120	0.54
Aviane	5 orange pills	5 orange pills	100	0.50
Camrese	4 light blue-green pills	4 light blue-green pills	120	0.60
CamreseLo	5 orange pills	5 orange pills	100	0.50
Cryselle	4 white pills	4 white pills	120	0.60
Enpresse	4 orange pills	4 orange pills	120	0.50
Introvale	4 peach pills	4 peach pills	120	0.60
Jolessa	4 pink pills	4 pink pills	120	0.60
Lessina	5 pink pills	5 pink pills	100	0.50
Levora	4 white pills	4 white pills	120	0.60
Lo/Ovral	4 white pills	4 white pills	120	0.60
LoSeasonique	5 orange pills	5 orange pills	100	0.50
Low-Ogestrel	4 white pills	4 white pills	120	0.60
Lutera	5 white pills	5 white pills	100	0.50
Lybrel	6 yellow pills	6 yellow pills	120	0.54
Nordette	4 light-orange pills	4 light-orange pills	120	0.60
Ogestrel	2 white pills	2 white pills	100	0.50
Portia	4 pink pills	4 pink pills	120	0.60
Quasense	4 white pills	4 white pills	120	0.60

¹⁰³ Types of Emergency Contraception, (11 June 2015).

Seasonale	4 pink pills	4 pink pills	120	0.60
Seasonique	4 light blue-green pills	4 light blue-green pills	120	0.60
Sronyx	5 white pills	5 white pills	100	0.50
Trivora	4 pink pills	4 pink pills	120	0.50

Emergency Contraception in Chile¹⁰⁴

Dedicated Products/ Progestin Only

Take 1 pill within 120 hours after unprotected sex:

Escapel- 1

Take 2 pills within 120 hours after unprotected sex:

Escapel- 2

Poslov

Pregnon

Oral Contraceptives used for EC / Progestin-Estrogen Combined

Take 50 pills within 120 hours after unprotected sex:

Microlut

Microval

Oral Contraceptives used for EC / Progestin-Estrogen Combined

Note: In 28-day packs, only the first 21 pills can be used

Take 4 pills within 120 hours after unprotected sex and take 4 more pills 12 hours later:

Microgynon CD

Take 2 pills within 120 hours after unprotected sex and take 2 more pills 12 hours later:

Nordiol

Nordiol 21

Take 4 pills within 120 hours after unprotected sex and take 4 more pills 12 hours later:

Anovulatorios Microdosis

Anulette CD

Anulette

Innova CD

¹⁰⁴ Study Birth Control. (n.d.). Retrieved December 27, 2015, from <http://ec.princeton.edu/countryquery.asp>

Lo-Femenal
Microfemin
Microgynon
Microsoft CD
Nordette
Norvetal
Rigevidon

Take 5 pills within 120 hours after unprotected sex and take 5 more pills 12 hours later:

Anulette 20
Loette

Appendix 2



Welcome to Chile:



A Family Guide to Chile

We hope that you find this informative, easy to follow and an essential part of your visit to Chile. This should help you keep from getting too ripped off, and too lost.



Airport Arrivals

At most spend \$30.000 CLP.

Buses

Turbus (green bus) and Centropuerto (blue bus) both offer cheap means to get into the city. They run between 6am and midnight, and cost less than \$2.000 CLP. You can pick them up at the airport just after baggage check, to the far left. The easiest place to get off is to either ride it to the end, or get off at the metro stop Pajaritos. The bus takes you to the metro and not directly to an address, so come prepared and ready to take on Santiago public transit. Be ready to pay in cash, ideally with smaller bills (no blue or orange bills).

Transvip

You can take this shared taxi service to be dropped off at a specific address. They can take up to 7 people in a single car. It comes with increased travel time, as you are dropping everyone off, but you do get delivered straight to an address. You can register for one online at <http://www.transvip.cl/> or you can arrange it at the airport via the Transvip kiosk. It costs \$7.000 CLP per person.

Taxis

There are a ton at the airport, however not all are legitimate, even if they have an "Official Taxi" sign. Most taxis are black with a yellow roof. When in doubt, request one from a kiosk in the airport. They should have a fare between \$20.000 and \$30.000 CLP.

Drivers

These typically can be arranged through your hotel. If you do not see your driver waiting for you after your delayed flight, proceed to get another method of official transit, as sometimes they don't wait around. Do your best to not pay for it ahead of time.



Public Transit: Metros, Micros and Taxis

Metros

The Metro is the easiest, cheapest and quickest way around the city. It opens at 5:55am on weekdays, 6:30am on Saturday and 8am on Sundays. It closes at 11pm every day but Saturday, when it closes at 11:30pm. The easiest means to travel on the metro is through purchasing a “BIP” card that is rechargeable and works on both the metro and the buses or “micros.” When your BIP is out of money, you go up to the ticket booth that is in every metro station and ask to “recarga” your BIP, aka load more money onto it. Each ride on the metro costs about \$1.00, though the exact rates change depending on the time of day and level of traffic. You can also buy individual tickets each time you travel on the metro at the ticket booth, but that ticket must be used within the appropriate travel time (i.e. tickets purchased during rush hour can only be used during rush hour).

Micros

Micros or buses are great to use when you know exactly where you are going, and which bus stop to take to get onto the bus. They can only be used if you have a BIP card (see above). Micros sometimes trump the metro due to the increased availability: many micros run 24 hours a day. The best way to make the most of the micros is to use an App that tells you exactly when the bus is coming to the stop you intend to leave from, that way you can avoid waiting outside for long periods of time. Visitors should avoid using the micros unless they have a good understanding of where they are in the city and what where they wish to go looks like. The bus drivers are a great resource and are more than happy to help drop you off at the appropriate stop, so long as you can ask for help in Spanish.

Taxis

Cabs can be hailed from practically anywhere in the city. Typical taxis are black with a yellow hood. The starting fare is 300 CLP (about \$0.50) and goes up as you drive, much like all other taxis. A ride to the outer neighborhoods of Santiago should not cost more than \$10.000 CLP, though it can vary with traffic. Keep anything you value with you when you get inside of the taxi, and if anything looks off: extra wires connected to the fare box, no fare box, etc. do not get into that cab. Most cabs on the street are fine with the worst situation being driven around a couple of extra blocks to increase the fare. However, do have your wits about you.

Uber

The application Uber, used with smartphones that charges your credit card directly, eliminating any need to pay with cash, is fully operational in Chile. Sometimes the Uber services are even higher quality than those found in the United States. However, this service can only be used if your smartphone has access to data via a sim card, or if you are in a WiFi zone. Therefore, it is a great service if you have everything planned out, but not very useful if you need a ride in a pinch.



How to Exchange USD to CLP

There are different “Casas de Cambio” throughout the city that accept and exchange the US Dollar: a well-liked and highly demanded currency throughout South America. If you are unable to find one of these exchange businesses, many banks also offer that service, though exchanging CLP to USD at the end of your trip would not be possible those same banks.

ATMs are the other primary way to withdraw cash. Almost every Chilean ATM charges fees for foreign transactions, and your domestic bank back home might do the same. The fees charged might equal those of the Casas de Cambio, though the machines are more convenient, making them the more likely choice for most travellers.

Credit cards are also accepted in Chile, and they are much more inclined and normalized to the safety chip. Credit card fraud was common enough at some point that the common courtesy now in Chile is to have the credit card reader brought to the client so that they can swipe it themselves (obviously seen at restaurants).



Appendix 3

Rate My Professor FEN

Appendix 4

Ski/Board Santiago

This is a basic overview of all the different resorts and their affiliated prices and promotions for the season. Prices are listed for adults, so if your parents come into town and are Senior level, they might get more discounts. A student discount will be mentioned when applicable.

Transportation

Typically it costs a bit of money to get up there, but nothing too excessive. Ideally, go with Chilean friends in their free Chilean car, if not there are a couple of easy daytrip options:

SkiTotal Transporte

The transport leaves at 8:00 am and returns at 5:00 pm from **Centro Comercial Omnium Apoquindo 4900, locales 37-46**. It is first come first serve, so reservations are not necessary.

	La Parva	El Colorado	Farellones	Portillo	Valle Nevado
Cost (CLP) Round-trip per Person	\$15.000	\$15.000	\$15.000	\$25.000	\$17.000
Days of Transport	Everyday	Everyday	Everyday	Only Wed. & Sat.	Everyday

I have also heard of a place in Bellavista where you can arrange all of this (I believe they have a huge bit of ski/snowboard graffiti on the outside). I didn't visit this local so you'll have to do your own research.

La Parva

Open until the 5th of September.

*Lift Ticket*¹⁰⁵

Prices 2015		Alta ¹⁰⁶	Baja
Adults (13-59 years old)	Day	\$42.500	\$30.500
	Half-Day	\$35.000	\$26.500

¹⁰⁵ I'm making this with the idea that you only want to go for daytrips; anything more and you might want to look into season passes.

¹⁰⁶ Where ALTA: every weekend, holiday and during the period of vacations and BAJA: Monday-Friday, not including any day is ALTA.

However they have a promotion running currently. For all of the Mondays and Tuesdays you can get **2x1 lift tickets** (so go with a friend and you each get 50% off) as well as a **15% discount** on daily tickets, classes and rental equipment. However, for this promotion you (or your friend) must have a registered account with Movistar. You can access this promotion in your Movistar app., you just have to show your evidence once you get to the slopes.

Rentals

Bearing in mind a daily rental and adult prices.

Advanced/Expert Ski (Skis, Boots and Poles)	Normal Ski (Skis, Boots and Poles)	Snowboard (Boots and Board)
\$36.000	\$27.500	\$27.500

El Colorado

(Allegedly) relatively boring for advanced ski/snowboarders and very big jump from green to blue slopes for the beginners. However, it is the cheapest resort and has the best terrain park.

Lift Ticket

	BAJA	ALTA
Day Pass Adult (25-64 years old)	\$40.000	\$45.000
Day Pass Student (13-24 years old)	\$31.500	\$33.500

El Colorado has one of the coolest ways to save money and go skiing through the purchase of a SKIPASS for \$5.000. With this you can purchase a ski ticket valid for a one-time use during a selected week. Lift tickets drop as low as \$20.000 for this promotion. However, you must have a RUT or RUN in order to register online, after registering all your information you can pick up your pass at the resort.

Register Here: <http://www.elcolorado.cl/skipass/>

¿Qué es SKIPASS?

Skipass es el sistema de uso de nuestros tickets, el cual te permitirá recargarlo desde cualquier punto con acceso a internet, evitando las filas en las boleterías de nuestro centro de ski. Ya que Skipass es una tarjeta recargable que cuenta con un sistema de chip incorporado, podrás pasar de forma más rápida por el acceso del andarivel, teniendo más tiempo para disfrutar de tu día en la cordillera.

Para recargar SKIPASS, debes seguir los siguientes pasos:

1. Ingresa a nuestro sitio web www.elcolorado.cl
2. Haz click en recarga SKIPASS.
3. Ingresa a tu cuenta.
4. Esto te permitirá acceder a descuentos especiales.
5. Seleccionas el producto y la fecha que quieres subir.
6. Esperas la confirmación del pago.
7. Subes al centro de ski para disfrutar directamente en las pistas, porque ya no es necesario hacer filas en cajas.

Rentals

Full Day Ski Adult (Skis, Boots and Poles)	\$23.000
Full Day Snowboard Adult (Boots and Board)	
Ski Pants	\$8.000
Ski Jacket	\$8.000

Portillo

First things first, check the website to see if the road from Santiago to Portillo is closed due to snow conditions.

Lift Ticket

	ALTA	BAJA
Day Pass Adult (18-64 years old)	\$42.000	\$31.000
Day Pass Student (18-24 years old)	\$34.500	\$26.000

As far as I can tell, Portillo has no fun promotions like the other resorts, however, it does have cheaper BAJA student rates.

Rentals

Full Day Ski Adult (Skis, Boots and Poles)	\$23.000
Full Day Performance Ski Adult	\$30,000
Full Days Snowboard Adult (Boots and Board)	\$23.000

Valle Nevado

Lift Ticket

	ALTA¹⁰⁷	BAJA
Full Day Adult	\$45.000	\$40.000
Full Day Student ¹⁰⁸(18-24)	\$33.500	\$31.500

It, similar to La Parva, has an agreement with a cellphone company to give discounts out to those who have cell contracts with the company. This discount is available on Tuesdays through calling the various discount codes on your phone. You will have to have made an account with the company, and you'll have to show your matching RUT/RUN and cell phone when you get up to the resort.

Tipo de descuento	% Descuento	Marca código
Tickets 2X1 martes	2X1	*110*301#
Ticket de lunes a domingo	15%	*110*302#
Arriendo de equipos	20%	*110*303#
Clases colectivas / individuales	20 / 15%	*110*304#
Restaurant Bajo Zero	20%	*110*305#

¹⁰⁷ Their "Alta" time is different from other resorts in that they consider Alta from July 3rd until September 27th, as well as weekends and vacation days. Baja only occurs on weekdays outside of the aforementioned period.

¹⁰⁸ Need to present both your Cédula and your Student ID.

Rentals

	½ Day	Full Day
Adult Ski or Snowboard Premium¹⁰⁹	\$29.500	\$43.000
Adult Ski or Snowboard Superior¹¹⁰	\$25.500	\$39.000
Adult Ski or Snowboard Standard¹¹¹	\$23.000	\$33.000

Farellones

According to the graphic map on their website, it looks like a child's playground where you would stow unruly children or dogs while you want to ski on the real slopes listed above.

Lift Ticket

This one is unique, in that you buy a SkiPass for \$5.000 and then have to buy Tickets on top of that, however, these tickets are not valid for a period of time, rather instead are valid for 10 trips up the mountain.¹¹²

Equipment Rental and Lift Ticket	Valid for 10 Lift Rides	\$28.000
Lift Ticket	Valid for 10 Lift Rides	\$15.000 (BAJA), \$19.000 (ALTA)
Equipment Rental and Lift Ticket (for Novices)¹¹³	Valid for 10 Lift Rides	\$24.000
Lift Ticket (for Novices)	Valid for 10 Lift Rides	\$12.000 (BAJA); \$15.000

¹⁰⁹ Specialty equipment for skiers who look for the perfect performance on the mountain, with the most recent skiing/boarding technology.

¹¹⁰ For knowledgeable skiers (a.k.a. on Black Diamonds) who have a more advanced level and who look for new challenges.

¹¹¹ For all these types, you will have to pay extra to get yourself Poles. But Poles are for people who have been trained to properly use them, so don't get them if you don't know how to use them. Learning a new sport with spikes in your hands is never a good idea.

¹¹² I have a feeling that this absolutely blows if you are an experienced speed demon, however if you are going for the first time you might enjoy the limited number of times you can crash down the mountain.

¹¹³ The novices restriction might keep you off of certain slopes that are not for Novices, i.e. you get to have a limited area lift pass.

	(ALTA)
Ski Pass	\$5.000

<i>Rentals</i>	
Full Day Equipment Adult (Complete Set)	\$15.000

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